

THE JOURNAL

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Style Holy comic book festival, Batman! WonderCon's back! [A14]

Sports El Cerrito baseball shocks Acalanes at the Willie Stargell Classic [C1]

Albany plans to clear the bulb

Ordinance would forbid people from living at landfill, and regulate activity at Albany Hill, Creekside parks

By James Carter

ALBANY - The City Council moved a step closer to clearing the bulb of residents Monday night, unanimously approving the second reading of an ordinance that, among other things, will forbid people from living there.

Yet, the Waterfront Ordinance - the result of years of contentious debate and deliberation - may be even more difficult to enforce than it was to enact.

Alex McElree, executive director of Operation Dignity, predicted some residents of the landfill are going to resist efforts to remove them from the landfill, and many may make "a last stand" there before moving out.

Operation Dignity is a transitional housing program contracted by Albany to help bulb residents find other places to live.

McElree suggested the city and social service agencies erect temporary shel-

ters for bulb residents to help prepare them for their eventual move, and to provide medical aid and substance abuse counseling to many individuals that

See BULB, Page A4

City wants to get even in elections

By J. R. Deaton

EL CERRITO - Some people want city elections changed to even-numbered years, but many others question just how it would be accomplished.

The City Council considered the matter at last Monday's meeting. Problems with the mechanics and the politics of such a move were evident at the session.

Should all current councilmembers be asked to serve an additional year? Should the term of the three councilmembers elected in 1997 be shortened to three years? Is this, as some people at the meeting claimed, some type of end-around play to increase the term of pro-redevelopment councilmembers?

"Eight years is about as much as a body can take," said former mayor and Councilwoman Jane Bartke.

"This is about ethics - fundamental ethics and conflicts of interest," said Councilman Larry Damon.

In the end, the council members decided they needed more information before making a decision. They also said there needs to be more public debate and input on the matter. The council is considering a suggestion to put the issue on the ballot for a public vote this November.

"I think it's excellent public policy to go to an even year where we both save money and increase voter turnout," Councilman Mark Friedman said at the meeting. "I would like us to come up with a more elegant consensus on how we deal with the politics of the situation."

"If we can get back to 70 percent turnout for our City Council elections, to me that is an excellent public policy," Friedman contended.

The issue was first brought before the council last month when former mayor Chuck Lewis asked the members to consider a move to even-numbered year elections. Lewis said such a move would save money and increase turnout.

At this week's meeting, in a report to the council, City Attorney Howard Stern presented the numbers.

Voter turnout would probably increase since voters tend to come out in greater numbers during general elections which are held on even-numbered years. According to Stern's report, county election officials found voter turnout in the 1997 El Cerrito City Council election to be 35.3 percent. Voter turnout in the city for the November 1998 gubernatorial election was nearly 71 percent.

Stern pointed out that currently the city has the same election date as the West Contra Costa Unified School District and costs are shared. For the upcoming November election, county elections officials estimate a cost of \$1.20 per vote in the city. El Cerrito has 12,355 registered voters and so election day November 1999 will cost the city an esti-

See ELECTION, Page A4

INDEX

■ Police	Page A2
■ Opinion	Page A13
■ Real Estate	Page B1
■ Classified	Page C10
■ Auto	Page D1

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JAMES CARTER

QUILTING with pictures, (l-r) Nancy Wallach, Dorothy Brown and Nurit Garner are chronicling their lives by compiling photo albums.

Creating quilts that are pretty as a picture

By James Carter

On a cold and rainy night, women gathered around tables illuminated by lamps that burned as soft as candlelight.

As they carefully clipped souvenirs

into heart shapes and ovals, the women exchanged stories about their kinfolk, shared recipes and advice.

These mothers and lovers and wives were not part of a quilting bee, though in a sense some say they are. They were

hard at work compiling photo albums chronicling the days and years of their lives.

The ritual-like gathering occurs once a month at Dorothy Brown's home in Albany. It is a workshop they are attend-

ing, one conducted on Tuesday nights. Participants come from Berkeley, El Cerrito, Kensington, Montclair and Piedmont, though at least one woman walks

See PICTURES, Page A4



JOANNA JHANDA

WINDRUSH student Chris Beaver discusses his group's mural about gangs with Charles Derden, an employee of the language center at UC-Berkeley. The students had their work on display at Sproul Plaza. For more, see page A5.

Mills is set to leapfrog into new job

Staff reports

ALBANY - Gary Mills, superintendent of the Mark Twain School District Calaveras County, will leapfrog into the position vacated by retiring Superintendent J. Dale Hudson.

Mills said he will sign a three-year contract next week and will be officially appointed Tuesday night during a regular meeting of the school board.

Mills will officially begin his term July 1, taking the reins of a district troubled by controversy, including the demolition of Albany High School, student protests there, and complaints by parents and teachers that school officials have ignored their input on new facilities and curriculum issues.

The AUDS has also been the brunt of a number of lawsuits, including a six-figure judgment against them due to a court ruling in a sexual harassment case.

Mills, a native of Ohio, was selected

See MILLS, Page A2

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Scott Little
Publisher, The Journal

WORTH CHECKING OUT

Castro Book Fair

A Scholastic Book Fair will be held Monday, April 12 through Friday, April 16 in the Multipurpose Room of Castro Elementary School, 7125 Donal Ave., El Cerrito. The hours will be noon to 3 p.m. daily, plus 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday. Proceeds benefit Castro PTA.

Celtic Spirituality

On Saturday, April 10, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. there will be a discussion on "Celtic Spirituality: Path to the Millennium." The class will be presented by Tom Dowling at Albany Methodist Church, Stannage and Marin. \$5 donation. Details: 528-4608.

Supervisor giola visit

Newly elected Contra Costa County Supervisor John Giola will be visiting El Cerrito's "Open House" Senior Center, 6500 Stockton Ave., on Wednesday, April 21, from 11:30 a.m. to noon. This is a great opportunity to "meet and greet" the new district representative.

EC Earth Day

On Saturday, April 24, everyone is invited to celebrate our community and planet, clean up neighborhoods, streets, creeks and schools. Work parties will begin at 9 a.m. There will be a barbecue at noon for participants at the Community Center. Details: Beth Bartke, 215-4342.

Mosaic Arts Academy

The City of El Cerrito Youth Services located at 7007 Mooser Lane is presenting Mosaic Art Academy, "Charcoal & Pastels, Collage, Cartooning, and Kids Crafts." These four classes will be offered for youths age 6 to 14 years old. Classes will be held at Tassajara Clubhouse of El Cerrito Community Center. For more information please call Lia between 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 215-4370.

Food, crafts, white elephants

The Friends of Albany Seniors are holding their annual White Elephant, Bake and Crafts sale at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. on Saturday, April 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Details: Anie Haden, vice president of Friends of Albany Seniors at 527-9413 or e-mail

at: eville@flash.net

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Preparedness party

El Cerrito and Kensington residents are invited to a drop-in open house Preparedness Party on Tuesday, April 20 from 7:15 - 9:15 pm at the Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington. Bring your family, your friends, and your neighbors. Kids welcome. The party will include an earthquake shake table, exhibits, displays, emergency supplies, kid's activity room, prizes, free stuff, refreshments. Resource people will be available to discuss Y2K and other preparedness issues. Sponsored by NEAT, the emergency preparedness program offered by the Fire Department. Information: Pat Catell, 525-7268. On Sunday, May 2, the Kensington Lions are having a free breakfast for the community. The Lions are providing the breakfast in appreciation of the help of the community in providing over 1,200 pairs of used eyeglasses, as well as coming to the Spring clean-up and supporting the two Oktoberfests the Lions put on. The event is at the Youth Hut, 59 Arlington Ave., across from the Arlington Community Church, from 9 a.m. to noon.

For further information contact Al Caruso at 527-4640.

Vista, MacGergor farewells

Vista and MacGregor Primary schools in Albany are scheduled to close in June and move to the "old" middle school site as Ocean View Elementary. Volunteers are needed now to help with preparation of "Fond Farewell Parties" on May 23. If you have photos and/or can volunteer, contact Joan Post at 528-5250 or Adele Helmgren at 528-9062.

Income tax form help

Seniors can get help with federal and state income tax forms at El Cerrito's Open House Senior Center, 6500

Stockton Ave. Assistance is free, although donations to the center are gladly accepted. Appointments: 215-4342.

Community Center Jobs

The City of El Cerrito is now accepting job applications summer employment. Positions available include day camp and pool staff. Ages 15 through 17 years old must have a job permit, and there is volunteer work for those 12 to 14 years old. Applications may be picked up at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane. The center is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Details: 215-4370.

Albany board openings

The Albany City Council is seeking interested citizens for appointment to the following boards, commissions and committees: Civil Service Board Library Advisory Board Park & Recreation Commission Arts Committee Charter Review Committee Waterfront Committee Mental Health Advisory Board. Interested applicants can contact the City Clerk for an application and description of each board, commission or committee. Details: 528-5720 or visit City Hall at 1000 San Pablo Ave.

Fiddle camp

Does your child play violin? "fiddlekids" is a summer camp for children ages 7-13, a fun-filled day-camp devoted to traditional fiddle music. Children explore Appalachian and Irish fiddle styles through tunes, songs, dance and music crafts, with three extraordinary fiddle teachers. The final day of camp culminates with a performance extravaganza. fiddlekids will be held June 21-25, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Prospect Sierra School, Tapscott Campus, in El Cerrito. Details: Bobbi Shearn Nikles, 235-0370.

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POLICE REPORTS

Nail-biting experience for sale

El Cerrito- Merchants on the 10500 block of San Pablo Avenue are biting their nails after a burglar with sticky fingers broke open the window of a shop late at night March 22 and stole \$1,397 of merchandise and equipment from Diana's Nail Salon.

■ Two men masquerading as employees of a communications firm attempted to rip off two residents on the 6600 block of Cutting Boulevard the morning of March 23. One of the pair, described as a 5 foot 7 Hispanic between the ages of 25-30, spoke to a resident in the back yard, while the second gained entry to the home and spoke with a resident indoors. Both men carried walkie talkies in their jacket pockets. The inside man, described as an mustached overweight Hispanic in his late 30s, wore a metal hard hat with the letters "CB" printed in blue. He managed to distract the resident long enough to rifle through a drawer before departing. Nevertheless, the not-so-dynamic duo left the scene empty-handed.

■ A rash of automobile break-ins committed late at night or dur-

ing the early morning of March 25-26 may been the work of the same individual or individuals, according to police. Three different cars parked between the 5400 and 5500 blocks of MacDonald Avenue were looted, their right rear wind-wings shattered. Stolen items included two separate canvas bags stuffed with CDs and a set of golf clubs.

■ That same evening three other cars were burglarized using the same modus operandi, including two automobiles parked at the same residence on the 2300 block of Humboldt Avenue. The burglar or burglars there stole cassette tapes, maps and loose change, yet were not so successful on the 5600 block of Rosalind Avenue, where a break-in resulted in the heist of \$1 in change.

■ At around 8:30 p.m., March 26, a driver waiting at a stoplight on the corner of Lincoln and San Pablo Avenue was startled when the driver-side window suddenly shattered. The frightened motorist turned right onto San Pablo, and, when feeling safe, stopped and phoned police from a car phone.

■ A burglar climbed through

the open window of a home on the 400 block of Village Drive March 27 and ransacked the home. Described by police as a 34-year-old white woman, the thief noticed police outside and ran for it. A short time later dogs made chase and the thief huddled behind bushes in a yard four doors down the street.

■ At 1:28 in the morning of March 28, a vandal heaved garbage can at the front of a house on the 1300 block of Street then savagely kicked the door before fleeing.

■ A burglar smashed through a kitchen window of a home on the 1300 block of Liberty Street March 30, gathered together loot at \$2,796, then, in broad daylight, stroled out the front door of the house undetected.

■ Near noon March 31, a used a screwdriver to break an automobile parked on the block of Lincoln Avenue, damaging the door during entry, the crook carefully walked into the cargo area and pilfered stereophonic equipment valued at \$550.

AREA EVENTS

Upcoming at Cal Performances

Cal Performances is offering an eclectic lineup for April, beginning with the avant-garde "Monsters of Grace" (April 13-17 at UC-Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall), a new multimedia opera based on the poetry of 13th century Sufi mystic Rumi and featuring the music of Philip Glass.

Pianist Murray Perahia performs a program of Bach, Beethoven and

Schubert in an April 11 at Zellerbach Hall, and pianist Kovacevich performs Beethoven Schubert in two recitals in the (April 18 and 25).

On April 16, Francisco's Ensemble Intercontinental to Hertz Hall. Founded by Boulez, this group of 31 musicians has a repertoire of more than 100 works; conducted by Daronson, they'll play music by Gyorgy Ligeti. For tickets, call Cal Performances box office 9988.

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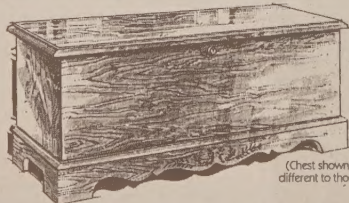
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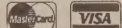
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Wilson couple earns a place of honor on El Cerrito Wall of Fame

By J. R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—There are some people you meet in life who, for whatever reason, seem to live their lives closer to God than most of us. Charles Edward Wilson and Lucy Wilson belong in this category. Charles died two and a half years after leading a life of good works and good humor. The long-time El Cerrito couple will be honored this month by their city, by their friends and by their wealth of friends. The couple was elected last month to the El Cerrito Wall of Fame, an honor given to those who achieve extraordinary civic accomplishment.

The Wilson's story and picture become part of the wall and they become part of El Cerrito's story. The date of the ceremony has not been set. Last week, Lucy Wilson, 81, reflected on a life of struggle, love and

"My favorite teacher was my mother," Lucy says of her early years in 1920s North Carolina and Virginia. Lucy remembers having to walk to school while others got to ride. School buses were for white children.

"During those days, because of segregation, the school systems were unequal," Lucy says with some sadness in her voice. Lucy says her mother, Rolande Ophelia Johnson, "was tired of that unevenness," and home-schooled her two daughters for the first few years of their primary education.

The instruction supported Lucy through the years. She attended high school in Portsmouth and Norfolk, Va., and went on to college, where she earned degrees in sociology and library sciences from Virginia Union University in Richmond and Columbia University in New York.

Lucy first met Charles in high school in Portsmouth. Did she know this was the person she would someday marry?

"I did not," she says. She was supposed to enroll in a Norfolk high school,

but on the day of enrollment decided to go to another school because that is where her friends were going.

"I got off the streetcar with them. I registered at the high school in Portsmouth, and that's where I met my husband," Lucy says. "I call that predestination."

Although they knew each other after that, they did not become a couple until a few years later during their first year in college.

"I didn't have anytime for couples. I was working my way through college," Lucy says.

But she was also having problems with algebra, and her friend Charles Wilson became her tutor.

"And as I was moving around and getting scheduled to be tutored by Mr. Charles in my math, I would notice the girls flirting with him, you know," Lucy says with a slight smile. She didn't really like the "flirts" and told herself that some were "not nice enough for him."

Lucy says that one day during a tutoring session, she told Charles "It's none of my business, but I got to find you a girlfriend." She says Charles gave her a peculiar look and said "Let's get to these equations."

For a social event at the YWCA, Lucy needed a companion for the evening. She says she asked her algebra tutor to be her escort. Charles agreed. Lucy says that at the end of the evening Charles told Lucy that she did not need to bother finding him a girlfriend.

"I said 'Oh really?'" Lucy says. "He said 'I've already found one. I'd like for Miss Lucy Wood to be my girlfriend,'" she says fondly.

That declaration led to love and marriage and baby carriages. They were married July 1, 1941, and had five children and four grandchildren and one great grandchild. All of their children are college graduates with successful careers.

Within a year of their marriage, Charles enlisted in the U.S. Army and later landed with the 597th Ordnance Ammunition Company on the coast of Normandy the day after D-Day.

"He didn't wait to be drafted," Lucy says. "He took himself right into the Army."

Charles served with distinction and was soon a first lieutenant. Lucy says "I lived on my knees," constantly praying for her husband's safe return.

After the war, the couple lived in Nyack, N.Y. Charles earned a law de-



LUCY WILSON (front row, second from left) and her husband, the late Charles Wilson, have earned their place on the El Cerrito Wall of Fame.

gree from Columbia University. The couple lived off the G.I. Bill while Lucy worked at home as a typist to supplement their income. She recalled the friendship and camaraderie of the wives living together at the university's student village.

"We were what you called 'student widows,'" Lucy says.

After Charles' graduation in 1948, he and Lucy and first daughter Margaret moved from New York to California. The family first stayed in San Francisco, but moved to the sunny side of the bay to live in Berkeley.

Charles passed the California Bar and soon became a practicing attorney at the law offices of Thomas Berkeley and Associates.

The family moved to El Cerrito in September 1962 to the King Court house Lucy still occupies. A black woman everyone called Big Mama lived across the street, Lucy says, and the neighborhood children knew they were welcome at Big Mama's house after school.

"Big Mama was there expecting them to come in case of an emergency," Lucy says, explaining that the area had a neighborhood feel to it.

"We moved in. I never felt unwanted," Lucy says. She recalls the fun New Year's parties her neighbors the Falconers used to throw for their friends. Lucy says her family would never miss the Falconer's New Year's party.

Lucy worked in libraries at the University of San Francisco, the Oakland

Public Library, UC-Berkeley and Laney College. In Richmond she was part of "Reaching the Unreached," a federal program designed to help library services in communities "that had not been adequately served," she says.

Charles was the first African American to run for the Berkeley School Board and in 1959 he took a position with the state's Fair Employment Practices Commission. The following year he drafted the commission's first rules and regulations and became its first senior legal counsel. From 1978 to 1983, Charles was an administrative law judge to the California Workmen's Compensation Commission.

In the late 1980s, the couple was instrumental in establishing El Cerrito's Human Relations Commission. Lucy was a founding member of the city's HRC which was eventually approved in March of 1989. Charles also worked to get the city to recognize Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday as an official city holiday.

Lucy says "there was a lot of resistance" to both the formation of a HRC in El Cerrito and the adoption of the holiday.

Budget concerns were a big obstacle to overcome, Lucy says.

"They said they couldn't afford the clerical support that a new commission would demand," she says. Lucy says Charles "sat in on the meetings and persuaded them to allow this to happen."

The couple also worked to establish the El Cerrito branch of the NAACP and in 1996 Charles was honored as Humanitarian of the Year by the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors.

The Ebony Museum of Arts in Oakland also presented Charles with their Contemporary Black Achievers Award in 1996. In 1997, Lucy was recognized as a founder of the California Librarians Black Caucus.

When the Wilsons were proposed for the Wall of Fame, the nominators, the Gray Panthers of West Contra County said the couple "have been leaders and effective advocates for equality of opportunity and justice for all persons."

"We have been active in the community simply because we appreciate the community," Lucy says. Lucy says that over the years she found that, in El Cerrito, "they listen to you at City Hall" and respond to people's requests. Lucy says she appreciates El Cerrito and is grateful for the honor, but that she and Charles did not do good works to win worldly honors.

"I think God created me for something," Lucy says.

But Lucy does not take credit for any of her works.

"I didn't do that. God did it through me," she says. "I don't take credit for it, but then I do appreciate the fact that my fellow men wants to say thank you and it gives me great joy."

"We are all a part of the same creation and so we're in it together," she says.

El Cerrito man sues city after police confiscate his marijuana plants

By J. R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—An El Cerrito man claims the police wrongfully confiscated 15 marijuana plants he was growing at his Potrero Avenue residence and a claim against the city for court in excess of \$25,000.

Robert Savage says the marijuana medical use to relieve chronic back and cervical-disc back pain. Savage claims that El Cerrito Police seized a recommended drug without a claim against the city for court in excess of \$25,000.

Savage has two daughters, one is 19 months old and the other is 4 years old who have been in the care of child protective services since the incident.

At the time of the incident, police said that Savage was arrested for child endangerment and marijuana cultivation. Savage said officials are using "marijuana as a wedge to keep them from returning to me."

At its March 15 meeting, the City Council denied Savage's claim against El Cerrito on a recommendation from the claims administra-

tor. Such denials are reported to be standard practice in claims concerning the city. The matter is being evaluated by risk management.

In a Feb. 22 letter to El Cerrito Police Chief Linda Fellers, City Attorney Howard Stern wanted the department to return Savage's marijuana.

Stern cites state law that allows possession and cultivation of marijuana for personal medical purposes of the patient upon the written or oral recommendation or approval of a physician.

The Contra Costa County district attorney has decided not to prosecute Savage.

Subsequently it was determined that California law requires that in such instances a court must decide what to do with the controlled substance.

"In cases where you have a controlled substance and there is not go-

ing to be a criminal prosecution involving that controlled substance, then the court is to either order that the controlled is to be destroyed or that it be returned to the owner," Stern said. The city has filed a petition in Superior Court to make a determination about what to do with the confiscated marijuana. A hearing is scheduled for April 15.

Last January, Savage petitioned for a writ of mandate with the state Superior Court to compel the city and the police department to return his marijuana and accompanying paraphernalia.

The petition also requests reimbursement "for costs of this proceeding and for such other and further relief as the court deems just and proper."

Savage has a physician's statement, signed last June by Berkeley's Dr. Tod H. Mikuriya, recommending

the use of cannabis to relieve back and arthritic pain.

"Intervertebral disc disease" and "post-traumatic arthritis" are the medical conditions listed by the physician.

A police report states Savage said he sells marijuana to the Oakland Pot Club. In an interview last week, Savage denies saying this to the police and denies selling marijuana to anyone. He did say that he hopes to someday sell medical marijuana "from my front door" to anyone with proper medical authorization.

According to Superior Court and police documents, police were called to the Savage home on the evening of Nov. 20, 1998. Savage said he left the children unattended while making a fish delivery and that he was gone for an hour and a half. Documents from Juvenile Court state that

the children were left without adult supervision for approximately two hours. A friend of William Savage came to visit, found the kids inside the house alone, and called police.

While searching the residence to determine if an adult was present, police discovered the marijuana plants growing inside the residence and in the back yard.

When Savage returned home, police report he was placed under arrest for child endangerment and marijuana cultivation. In court documents, police said Savage told them he smokes marijuana for medical reasons on the advice of a doctor, but did not produce a doctor's prescription.

Savage reportedly told police he has been growing marijuana "for approximately five years" and that he smokes "on the average of twice a day."

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Election

FROM PAGE A1

mated \$14,826.

However, if costs are shared with more jurisdictions, Stern explained that election costs will decrease. Many Contra Costa cities are moving to even-numbered year election dates. According to Stern's report, of the 17 cities in Contra Costa County, 12 conduct their municipal elections in November of even-numbered years. In Pleasant Hill, the issue of whether their election date should be changed will be decided by a public vote this November.

If the city of El Cerrito changed its election date to November of even-numbered years, it could share election costs with the state, the county, Stege Sanitary District and other governmental entities which also conduct elections in El Cerrito on that date," Stern explained in his report. This would reduce the cost to about 60 cents per vote, which works out to about \$7,413 for the upcoming election. Savings would be less the first year because the city is

required to provide notice to all registered voters about the election date change.

"This is not about saving money," Councilman Damon said at the meeting. "I don't think this is about saving money- what this is all about is about retaining power."

Damon said the council has "given away more than 10 times the relatively minuscule savings that we're taking about."

Damon charged that a "small group" of citizens are using the issue as a "pretext to retain a preferred councilperson for an additional year." Damon said that the decision to keep council members in office a fifth year to move to even-numbered year elections "is not our decision to make." He said the matter should be decided by a public vote and said, "This is about honor, about character, about self respect."

The "preferred councilperson" that Damon referred to, Councilman Norman La Force, said, "I think that cost is an important factor."

La Force added that "there are a lot of things we could do" with the \$7,000 per election cost savings. He

also said that voter turnout would be higher, which is an important consideration. La Force said it was "very ironic" that people who accused him and Councilwoman Bartke of wanting to extend their terms "seemed to forget that the same extension would apply to the other three members of the council and only directed their comments at us."

Mayor Gina Brusatori said there has not been enough dialogue in the community concerning the issue. She said she would "support this as something to put on the November ballot measure," and that there should be a "true public discourse" on the question.

The matter will be studied further by city staff and will be revisited at the council's May 3 meeting. Various options and scenarios will be outlined. As Councilman Friedman explained, "We want a matrix that shows the options- the three-year, the five-year; the vote, the no vote; the status quo- and with the costs, and then the timing of the sequencing of the terms."



ALICIA MENDOZA arranges her photos.

Pictures

FROM PAGE A1

less than a block from her home nearby.

All have gathered at Brown's house for one simple reason. Together they assemble family albums they hope will be passed from generation to generation.

Brown's workshop is called "Creative Memories," a business she has operated for two years.

The dangers of plastic

One of the first things Brown warns first-time students is the dangers of magnetic photo albums, the kind where pictures stick to a glue-like surface and are covered by a plastic sheet.

According to Brown such albums contain polyvinyl chloride which chemically destroy the photos they are supposed to protect.

The workshops Brown teaches provide women - or men - with acid-free photo albums. For a fee, "Creative Memories," a company based in St. Cloud, Minn., provides albums, templates and special tools that help people design their own family chronicles.

Yet for many, the monthly workshop is much more than an opportunity to compile memories for future generations. It is a social function, a chance to be out with the girls. And the women

enjoy every minute of it.

A quilting bee

Alicia Mendoza smiled as she clipped snapshots of her 16-month-old son. A kindergarten teacher at Havens Elementary School in Piedmont, Mendoza said she has been compiling albums for three years.

"Now that I have a 16-month-old son, I want to keep documenting his developmental stages," Mendoza said with a grin. "I'm really into it."

Mendoza said going to the monthly workshops "is like going to a quilting bee. And quilts were how pioneers documented important events in their lives," she said.

"The pioneers had squares that represented things that happened to them," Mendoza said softly. "We're all documenting our lives and sharing vacation trips and parenting tips and talking about husbands and things that are going on. Plans and hopes and dreams. We're just talking about life."

Gail Nordling said the moment she began attending the workshops she knew "it was the right thing for me. I used to keep photo albums when I was in high school," she said, "and I just fell out of the habit. I had stockpiles of photographs collected in boxes. This was my chance to dig into them."

Nordling said she is putting together some of her boyfriend's pictures. "It's

"This is a social event for me. The socializing and talking about the pictures with each other."

KAREN LARSON

given me a chance to talk with him in his family and ask 'What was on when these photos were taken?' kind of cement some connections."

The dining room

Meanwhile, in the dining room nearby, four other women were talking up a storm. An Albany resident with two children, ages 2 and 5, has made several albums and taken them away as gifts to family members.

"This is a social event for me," said. "The socializing and talking about the pictures with each other." "Not to mention it's a lot more fun when you're surrounded by her friend Connie Zamanian and

Bulb

FROM PAGE A1

sorely need it there.

A Vietnam veteran who was homeless for several years, McElree also warned more people may move to the bulb before the newly enacted ordinance becomes law. He said many homeless shelters open during the rainy season are being closed, leaving people few places to turn for refuge.

The Waterfront Ordinance is scheduled to take effect June 15. In addition to prohibiting camping at the landfill and waterfront area, the ordinance will also regulate activities on Albany Hill and Creekside Park.

Prior to the council meeting April 5, Assistant City Administrator Ann Ritzma acknowledged that despite ongoing efforts by the city to work with organizations aiding individuals living on the bulb, there is at least one resident there that has declared he will not move without a fight.

Known simply as John, the obstinate resident says he has lived on the landfill for over eight years and appears prepared to claim squatting rights there.

Other bulb residents have built houses on the landfill- structures with roofs, floors, windows, sinks, jury-rigged showers and kitchens. It appears they, too, may be reluctant to give up their homes.

Efforts to relocate individuals living on the former dump are also complicated by the lack of affordable housing in the Bay Area, according to McElree.

Yet, despite such potential prob-

lems, the council appears prepared to do what is necessary to clear the bulb. Its goal is to sell the property to the East Bay Park District, which in turn plans to transform the former dump into the jewel of the growing Eastshore Park system.

Alcohol and fireworks

While debating the final public reading of the ordinance, members of the council discussed other related issues.

Councilman Ed McManus asked how the new ordinance would affect alcohol consumption on Albany Hill. The ordinance as presented to the council Monday night would forbid drinking there.

McManus said he knew of at least two couples that packed a picnic lunch- including a bottle of wine- and became engaged while perched on Albany Hill. When the councilman asked if the new ordinance would allow couples to obtain permits to share wine and promises there in the future, Mayor Peggy Thomsen laughed and said she was certain it would.

McManus also questioned language that would forbid the possession or use of fireworks at the waterfront area and Albany Hill. The councilman said he looked through the city code and could find no regulation regarding the possession and use of such incendiary devices.

When the former mayor questioned four-term City Attorney Robert Zweben if there were ordinances currently on the books that banned the use of fireworks, Zweben said he did not know.

"Have we been pulling the wool over the eyes of Albany residents all these years?" McManus asked. Zweben again said he did not know

for certain. He later suggested Chief of Police Larry Murdo would be the best person to ask.

Questions regarding access to Albany Hill for stargazers and individuals celebrating the solstice were quickly dispatched when city staff assured such things would be allowed to those who obtained permits in advance.

After two minor changes in the wording of the proposed ordinance, the council unanimously agreed to enact it effective June 15, 1999.

In other council business

Fire Chief Marc McGinn presented council members a comprehensive report summarizing the work of the Albany Fire Department over the past five years.

While pointing to progress regarding emergency preparedness, McGinn said it appears many city residents have been lulled to sleep by the relative lack of recent earthquake activity. He urged people to continue preparations for an earthquake "that will inevitably strike."

The Chief also urged those that have taken CPR classes to take a refresher course, suggesting that without frequent training, individuals may forget the essential lessons they have learned.

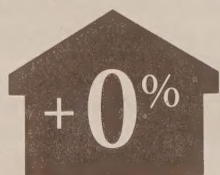
The council also proclaimed the week of May 17-21 as "Bike to Work Week." Citing the many advantages of cycling, the council said riding a bike helps to "alleviate traffic congestion, reduce air pollution, and decrease fuel consumption."

Other endorers of "Bike to Work Week" include: the American Lung Association, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and the California Bicycle Coalition.

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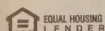
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EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

Windrush students using art as tool for social protest

By Suzanne Baker

Windrush School in El Cerrito is productively upset this week. The sunny classrooms of the Chinese orphanage that was the school, middle school students are engaged in the time-tested practice of using art as a social protest.

In the last two weeks, students have been excused from the rest of their studies to focus on an interdisciplinary unit that uses different mediums of art—poetry, blues, performance art, mosaics, poster art, music and murals—to explore local social issues.

Students bustle around classrooms, paint-splattered and driven by their conviction as by a relay project deadline, when they are scheduled to display and perform their artwork on Sproul at UC-Berkeley.

The project began two weeks ago when teachers asked students, "Are you appalled by locally?" Martha Vlahos, marketing coordinator for the private school, said students come from Montebello, Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito and Richmond.

Based on their responses, students were placed in one of six groups: hate crimes, youth gangs, discrimination based on appearance, sexual orientation, youth homelessness, and the gasoline additive. Students then chose an art form with which to express their protest.

"There's a real momentum this year," said Arin Wiscomb, Windrush's art teacher. "This is awe-inspiring to me, watching this happen."

The momentum is palpable in classrooms, where students voice their opinions about the social issues between brush strokes.

It's not empty rhetoric. These students are armed with a week's worth of research about their social issues. The information was gleaned from the Internet, the library, or

through interviews and personal observation.

"There are laws against discrimination on the basis of religion or race, but not enough (laws) to protect gays," said seventh-grader Sarah Levin, as she filled in the outline of a dress drawn on canvas with green paint. "I think that's wrong."

Sarah and eighth-grader Alan Kline are part of a group painting a mural that depicts discrimination based on sexual orientation. Their mural pictures two gay couples holding hands. A man from one of the couples is being fired from his job because he is gay. The other pair, a lesbian couple, is being looked at askance by a third woman.

In the center of the mural is a burning scroll, meant to be the Constitution, on which the words, "All people are created equal" are written. Below it is a poem by sixth-grader Tracy Hine that reads in part: "It doesn't feel safe to walk down the street/ Because I do see the stares/ and I do have feelings."

The group said that their mural is meant to wake people up to the discrimination against gays that goes on every day, but they add that it is only a partial statement.

"It's hard to say it all," said Sarah. "There's a lot to say about the problem."

Across the room, another group is almost done with a mural about discrimination based on appearance. Its vivid colors reveal the influence of the murals in San Francisco's Mission District that the group visited last week on a field trip.

"(The field trip) helped us figure out how to make a mural," said eighth-grader Parras Vega. "We're trying to show that, even though we look different, we're all the same," she added, pointing to the words running across the top of the mural: "We are everyday people."

"We thought that this was the (topic) that affected us most and that we wanted to change," said sixth-grader Alex Boyder.

In another room, students are just as eager to discuss the subject



WINDRUSH students Alex Boyder (left), Bibi Gnagno (center) and Kelly Walsh (right) are working on their mural for interdisciplinary week, which depicts a local issue they chose to research and interpret — discrimination.

of their mural: youth homelessness.

Out of 13,000 homeless people in the Bay Area, 7,000 are youths and 2.5 of those are HIV positive, said sixth-grader Spencer Winton, as he dabbed red paint on the canvas.

"We don't think about what we have," said Meaghan Fitzgerald, a petite seventh-grader wearing Tommy Hilfiger overalls under an apron.

The statement made by the group's mural is less explicit than the murals in the other room. The mural pictures an elegant dinner scene, complete with a white linen tablecloth, regal red place mats and glasses of red wine. The scene is bordered by a frame of brownish brick, suggesting the perspective of a homeless person looking in.

The mural is meant to show how lavish meals eaten by average people are taken for granted, said Meaghan, adding that the words

"Fill an empty stomach," will be painted across the top.

Rather than presenting the icons of their social issue, the group's mural is "presenting a perception," said Wiscomb. "This is the stuff you see in upper-division, undergraduate classes," he said.

The culmination of the project will take place Thursday, April 1, when Windrush students take their artwork to Sproul Plaza, the birthplace of the free speech movement, and present it to the public, complete with mock "press releases" that explain each project.

"It's thrilling," said Alan. "It's like we get to make a difference."

"We're going to be the next free speech movement, except that we're not old enough," said Sarah.

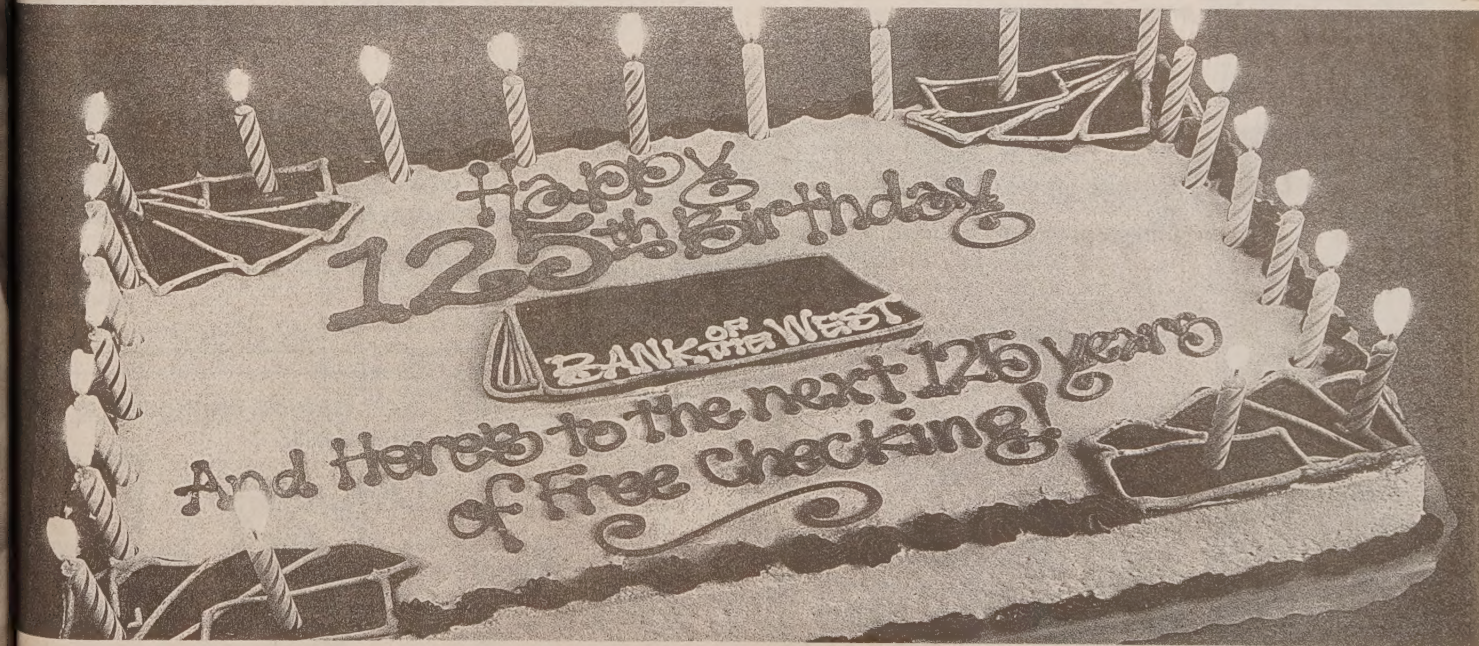
"I don't think age matters," said Alan. "What matters is that we care."



JULIA UDELL (right) reads poetry at Berkeley's Sproul Plaza.

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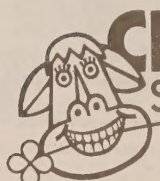
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Chamber to honor local bank manager

E.C. Chamber

By Sewall Glinternick

Declaring that admiration of the local banker was not just limited to the business community, Kerber went on to say, "Proof of the great good feeling he has engendered in the city at large can be seen in the fact the firm was able to close its El Cerrito Plaza office without stirring a public protest or damaging the bank's high regard among the people here."

Eleven firms join Chamber in March

Eleven businesses joined the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce during March. Seven were new to the organization and four rejoined after a short absence.

New to the Chamber were The Promotion Factory, A Crafter's Corner, Nibs Restaurant, D. Douglass Fraser Photography, Hacienda Restaurant, Walgreen Drugs, and Denny's Family Restaurant. Among

those who rejoined were Old West Gun Room, Terrace Motel, TCI Cablevision and The Oakland Tribune.

The Promotion Factory is owned and operated by Alan Freedman and is located at 1432 Kearney St. The firm manufactures advertising specialties such as pens, badges, emblems, key chains, pins, medals as well as a complete line of awards and plaques.

A Crafter's Corner, located at 455 El Cerrito Plaza, is operated by Jean Thompson and Doreen Trubody. The shop specializes in the sale of art and craft items made by a wide variety of area artisans.

Broiled hamburgers and hot dogs and delicious homemade pie is the specialty of Nibs Restaurant at 10841 San Pablo Ave. Owned by Charlene and Ed Holmstrom, Nibs is open seven days a week from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

D. Douglass Fraser Photography is headquartered at 7023 Stockton Ave. Photographer Don Fraser specializes in high quality portrait and wedding pictures. The firm is also active in the field of commercial photography.

A.A. "Tony" Carrico, one of the area's oldest active businessmen, owns and operates the Hacienda Restaurant and Bar at 12020 San

Pablo Ave. at MacDonald. The establishment specializes in barbecue steak, seafood and fresh Mexican and American food, and features live music and dancing on Friday and Saturday nights.

Walgreen Drug Store's recently opened branch here is located at 11565 San Pablo Ave. in the Del Norte Marketplace. Managed by Damian Smith, the store features a complete line of drug and sundry items as well as one-hour photo processing.

Denny's Family Restaurant at 11344 San Pablo Ave. (at Potrero) is tentatively scheduled to hold its grand opening on the evening of Sunday April 11. Owned and operated by the brothers Ben and Burt Benepal, the Chamber's newest member will be open seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

14 firms rejoin

Owned and operated by Robert Weaver, The Old West Gun Room at 3509 Carlson Blvd. is one of El Cerrito's landmark businesses. The firm first joined the Chamber in 1985.

The Terrace Motel and Apartments at 10869 San Pablo Ave. is now

under the new ownership of Wahn Har. The establishment originally became a Chamber member in 1979.

TCI, the cable television provider for El Cerrito, is now headquartered locally at 2900 Technology Court in Richmond. The company first joined the Chamber in 1983 when it was located at 10042 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito.

Returning to the Chamber's membership list after an absence of two years is the Oakland Tribune, which is currently located at 66 Jack London Square in Oakland.

Five more reinvest

Over the past two weeks five more current members have shown their support for the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce by reinvesting in the organization for another year.

Included in this group of loyal members are Mark Perez DDS, Bright Star Montessori School, Hip-Hop Baby Shop, Connors Overhead Door Co., and Foley and Bonny.

Chamber members air preference on new businesses

With talk of starting an economic development program in El Cerrito



LOCAL BANKER Bill Morrow, manager of the El Cerrito branch of the Merchants Bank, will be honored by the Chamber of Commerce.

growing a random sample of fifteen percent of the chamber of Commerce's membership aired their

See CHAMBER, Page A8

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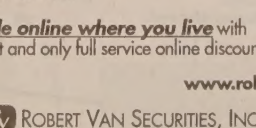
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A lifetime making people happy

Jean Paul Valjean is a performer. A delightful and entertaining performer. And that, my friends, is a serious business.

But when first I saw him, when he performed at the celebration of the fifth anniversary of the Albany Community Center/Library, it was just fun. And the audience, both children and adults, were enjoying him hugely.

So what is the life of a performer like? Interesting. Different. And yet, just like you and me.

Jean Paul Valjean's given name is Lorraine, as was his father's before him.

Looking for a stage name, he found Jean Paul pleasing and adding his mother's name Valjean made it memorable as well as alliterative.

Jean Paul was born in Algeria, but his family emigrated to England when he was 2 1/2 years old, living in a little town outside of Liverpool called Flint. Since both of his parents were circus people, he received circus training early.

His mother was a contortionist and did "slack rope" walking. His father was also a contortionist and acrobat who did a high wire act.

Since his father was a very tight-knit individual, Jean Paul never did learn what brought him into the circus.

Valjean was 5 years old when he started performing. "I seemed to have an innate ability, and was more coordinated than most children my age. It was a gift." Although he loved it and enjoyed the work, the downside was that he had "lots of learning disabilities." He adds, "I only went to school one day. I was way too much to handle."

After that he was pretty much

Community Folk

By Clare-Rae Genser

left to his own devices. A lonely child, he enjoyed practicing and learning about the natural world. "Fortunately, there were a number of educated people around me who could answer my questions. That was my schooling. I taught myself how to read and write."

As he became older, "things began to work out." He left home at 15 to strike out on his own. He hired onto a different circus or variety show each year. He would work about seven months and then spend the other five at home "saving my money and meeting a lot of interesting people." He says he had an interest in science, but knew that he was doing what he was meant to do, Circus work and performing.

"It was just so much fun," he said with a smile, adding, "and it still is. More fun now than ever. I can appreciate it more. I haven't done anything else, haven't had an interest in doing anything else. Performing is so stress free and positive. I know several lawyers and doctors, and cannot imagine living with the stress that they do."

Valjean has performed pretty much all over the world, "everywhere but Antarctica."

He came to the U.S. in the 1960s because he had some relatives living in Saratoga. "I really liked it." He worked with circuses here, including a stint with the Pickle Family Circus in San Francisco. "Not much money, but a fun thing to do."

He hurt his back very severely and had to change his act from ac-

robat and tightrope walker to what he is doing now.

"I went from a nonspeaking act to a speaking act. It was very hard. Opening my mouth was a most daunting experience." It took a lot of years to know who he was: comedian, elegant gentleman, juggler, or goofy? He learned that he had to write his own material. "It has to come from you."

He went to Richmond to work at a hospice, after reading about a Buddhist priest, who had been a Catholic priest, working all on his own for the hospice there. He was so impressed, he thought, maybe he could help. The priest was desperately in need of help, so Valjean stayed. Through the program he met his present wife, and it was she who encouraged him to get back into performing.

"She is the biggest influence on my act. She is a college professor at San Francisco State, totally opposites who turned out to be a perfect match. I couldn't have done it without her. And it was just a chance meeting."

Jean Paul says he is always finding new things to do, but it is the comedy that is hard.

"I can be kind of hard-edged," he says, "especially with bratty kids. But the adults love it."

Then he talks of his work today. He does many kinds of shows, with very mixed audiences. "People don't come especially to see you." It is much more challenging.

He works the school circuit, fairs and festivals (there are over 20,000 festivals throughout the U.S.), variety shows that travel around the country, cruise ships, and things like the celebration where I met him.

He says there are about 30 to

Jean Paul says he is always finding new things to do, but it is the comedy that is hard.

40,000 people worldwide who do what he does. They make an average of \$25 to 30,000 a year. Circuses do not pay well, and many of the circus people would like to get into Circus Circus.

In an aside, he bemoans the treatment of animals in the circus. So cruel, he says. He hated that part of it.

But he remains a performer, and continues to love his work.

He sees his three children often, and says his 18-year-old son is a very fine juggler, "much better than me," but he doesn't know if he wants to go into the work.

His 27-year-old son is a "90s hippie in Mendocino" and his 14-year-old daughter wants to be a vet "and probably will be." And he adds, "They are good kids."

He is where he wants to be now, living in Albany, with a wife who understands and encourages him, doing the work he continues to love. And isn't that what everyone wants?

As always, I invite your input: interesting people, events, organizations, etc. Please write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 525-4585. My email is crgenser@aol.com.

ALBANY PTA COUNTY NEWS

By Kay Weinstein

Albany PTA Council

April 26, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., AMS Library

Albany High School

SCRIP Orders: Support AHS by buying Safeway, Andronico's or Lucky certificates. Call Linda Okamoto at 525-6782 or Belinda Lum at 528-2429

Site Council News:

Parent surveys have been compiled into a report, which will be presented at May PTA meeting. Copies of the survey report available now in AHS office and library. Applications now available in AHS office for funding proposals for next school year. Applications are due April 13. There is nearly \$80,000 available. Teachers, students and parents may apply for Site Council funding. Questions? Call Joan Larson at 526-7769.

April 12, Staff Development, NO SCHOOL. This day is devoted to the Digital High School project. Parents are invited to hear the keynote speaker, Craig Smith, on "The Digital War on Poverty," from 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. at the Albany Community Center. Please RSVP to Bob Allegretti at 559-6550, ext. 6552.

April 12, PTA Meeting, 7:15 p.m., AHS Library. Topic: WASC, IIC, and School Vision

April 15, Principal's Roundtable, 5 p.m., AHS Room 53

Albany Middle School

SCRIP Orders: Support AMS by buying Safeway certificates.

April 12, Staff Development, NO SCHOOL

April 15, "It's Elementary" Film Preview, 7 p.m., AMS Library. Topic: Gay and Lesbian Issues in Schools

Cornell Elementary School

April 14, PTA Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

Vista-MacGregor Primary School

SCRIP Sales: Wednesday evenings before school, or call Mary Lincoff at 524-5129.

Albany Citizens Parcel Tax Committee

April 14, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., 1604 Solano Ave., Albany Office of Robert Chestnut. VOTE YES on Measure A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z. Save Albany's Strong Schools!

Albany Education Foundation

April 11, Buffet Brunch at Christopher's Cafe, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$28 to benefit the Albany Education Foundation. Tickets can be purchased at Christopher's Cafe, 1501-A Solano Ave., calling AEF at 524-7797.

April 18, Ice Cream Social at Albany Community Center, 4-6 p.m. FREE, many student performances and artwork on display.

Albany City Council July 4 Celebration at Memorial Park

Fundraising Booths available for local groups. Contact Jan Ely at 526-7769.

AUSD Board of Education

April 13, 6:00-7:30 p.m., N.E. Meeting of the City Council and Albany Unified School District, City School Multi-Purpose Room, 7:30 p.m., Regular Board Meeting.

Items? Call Kay Weinstein at 526-7769 or email: kayweinstein@hoo.com

Chamber

FROM PAGE A7

views on what types of businesses should be urged to come to their city.

Some 60 percent of those responding to the mini-survey listed as top priority for economic development the obtaining of a department store and an upscale restaurant.

Among the department stores favored by those surveyed were Nordstrom's Rack, McCaulou's, Bloomington's, Gottschalk's, Macy's, Mervyn's and J.C. Penney. Listed as favored candidates for a quality restaurant were Black Angus, Chevy's, Claim Jumper, Max's, and TGIF.

Some 30 percent of those surveyed put both of these categories at the top of their list as preferred business for El Cerrito Plaza. Some 30 percent also called for mens' and ladies' apparel shops—such as Old Navy, The Gap, Eddie Bauer, and Men's Warehouse—at the plaza.

Mens' and women's clothing

stores were the second highest city-wide choice of those responding, favored by some 45 percent of the people surveyed.

Some 30 percent indicated they wished to see big-box retailers such as Ross, Sears, Marshall's and T.J. Maxx encouraged to locate somewhere in El Cerrito. It was also the second choice of those suggesting business for the Plaza, favored by 24 percent of the respondents.

Some 30 percent wanted to bring big-box retailers such as Ross, Sears, Marshall's and Maxx to El Cerrito. While 27 percent of those surveyed favored locating an upscale food store like Andronico's or Trader Joe's or a theater somewhere in the community.

Some 21 percent called for attracting a coffee house such as Peet's or Starbucks, while 18 percent wanted to see a toy store located in El Cerrito.

Going after a discount store such as Pier One or Cost Plus, a shoe store and a medium-priced restaurant such

as Fresh Choice was called for by 15 percent of those surveyed. Some 12 percent favored attempting to get a large book store and an electronics outlet such as Fry's, Good Guys, Circuit City or Sharper Image.

The need for a children's clothing store, a pet store, an ice cream and yogurt shop, a sporting goods store, a Williams-Sonoma outlet, a houseware firm, a music store and a linen and bedding business was indicated by 9 percent of the people surveyed.

Some 14 other businesses—ranging in size from a hotel to public restrooms—were proposed by six percent of those responding to the study, while another 3 percent suggested bringing in 37 other kinds of commercial ventures—including such things as a Wal-Mart, IBM, Chevron, a Junior College, a winery and a hospital.

Bright star school plans move

Bright Star Montessori School, member of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce, has announced its

plans to move to the former Albert's Nursery site at 10534 San Pablo Ave.

According to Swarna Marz, head of the school, Bright Star has purchased the nursery property and intends to move play structure and custom designed modular classrooms onto the site initially, with the intention of building permanent structures in the future.

She added the site is full of mature trees, all of which will be preserved. Existing potted plants that remain from the former nursery's inventory will be placed with regard to safety and aesthetic sensibility.

Bright Star plans to begin operations at the new site as a private preschool and elementary school—with a projected enrollment of approximately 60 students—in late June or early July.

Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. In order to respect the privacy of the neighborhood, morning childcare students will be kept in classrooms until 8 a.m.

The school has already submitted a Use Permit application for a facility to house up to 100 students, and is seeking a variance to allow a four-foot high fence to be located along the front property line.

The application calls for the installation of two modular classroom buildings on the Kernel Street side of the property. Parking for staff will be located on the San Pablo Avenue side of the site.

A hearing on Bright Star's application and related traffic and environmental matters will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, in the City Council Chambers at 7007 Mooser Lane.

While the City Planning Office has already announced it will recommend adoption of a "negative declaration" regarding environmental effects, the public hearing has been called to receive testimony on the project and related environmental documents.

Opened here in 1977, over the years Bright Star School has pro-

vided hundreds of children from El Cerrito and neighboring communities with the highest quality Montessori education available.

Denny's sets April 11 opening

Denny's, the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce's newest member, tentatively scheduled to open on the evening of Sunday, April 11.

Owned and operated by Ben and Bert Bernal, the newest restaurant will seat 100 patrons and will have a private room that can accommodate up to 50 people.

Lions Club slates benefit

The El Cerrito Lions Club slates members of the Chamber to hold their annual Benefit 1999 B-Cue Dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday, April 11 at the Masonic Temple in Stockton.

Open to the public, tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children may be purchased from club member and will also be available at the door.

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Arlene Sagan, Director
STEMS affiliate presents

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Matthew Edwards, Piano
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People

Two local students kick their way to the top in Denver

The annual United States National Judo Championships were held in Denver, Colo. on March 13-14. There were about 200 competitors from all around the United States, representing 20 different states. Two competitors from East Bay Judo Institute in El Cerrito, Stephanie Hata and Sayaka Matsumoto represented their high schools in the championships. Hata, a student at El Cerrito High School, took first place in the female 41 kg. and under division. She is also the current junior national champion in her age and weight division. Matsumoto, a student at St.

Mary's College High School in Berkeley, took third in the female 48 kg and under division. She is also the current junior national champion in her age and weight division.

Matsumoto now turns her attention to competing in the U.S. Senior National Judo Championships, which will be held in late April in Spokane, WA.

Both Hata and Matsumoto will also compete in the junior national championships in July.

Volunteer sews pillows for heart patients

Doctors Medical Center Volunteer

Has Sewn Over 1,000 Personal Pillows for Patients

For 75 year old hospital volunteer Evelyn Congleton of El Cerrito, stitching special pillows for open heart surgery patients is very rewarding.

She has sewn a pillow for every open heart patient at the Intensive Care Unit of Doctors Medical Center (formerly Brookside Hospital) in San Pablo since they opened the open heart surgery unit in 1989. As of Feb. 14, she celebrated having completed her 1000th personal pillow.

They are square pillows, about half the size of a standard pillow, with poly-

foam fillings to make them soft, flexible and huggable. Congleton collects washable cotton cloth material that has hearts on them from as many places as she can.

Nurses from the hospital also bring her material. She prefers red but uses other colors as long as they have hearts on them.

According to Theresa Bailey, Charge Nurse of the Intensive Care Unit at Doctors Medical Center, "Evelyn's pillows are a very important part

of the heart patient's after surgery care.

Because the patient cannot use their arms for about 6 weeks after surgery or until their sternum heals, the pillow is used as a prop to hug and hold against their chest. It is a reminder for the patients to be careful not to use their arms. The pillows also help the patient when they need to cough or turn."

Nurse Adrian Reid agrees. "Evelyn has done a great job with her pillows. The patients really appreciate them,

they grow attached to them, and they even get to take their personal pillow home. Evelyn is becoming known as the "seamstress of the hospital." In fact, our doctors, nurses and volunteers now bring her their mending," Reid adds.

Readers who want to donate cloth material for heart patients can contact Theresa Bailey, ICU at Doctors Medical Center in San Pablo by calling 970-5100.



MAKING hand made pillows for open heart surgery patients are Ronica Shelton RN, left, Evelyn Congleton, volunteer, and Adrian Reid, RN.

Children inspires local artist

Local artist Lisa Greenstein is inspired by children, as well as personal objects like shoes and hats. Currently, an example of her work can be seen at El Cerrito High School in the main hall. Collaborating with a senior parent, she painted the display that recently kicked off the annual Grad Night effort at the school.

Greenstein, daughter of a New York cab driver, and her husband, Ron, have lived in El Cerrito for 18 years. They have two children, a daughter at El Cerrito High School and a son at Portola Middle School. She has donated art services in other collaborative projects to benefit local schools.

"I don't usually go to PTA meetings, so this is one way I can contribute," she says. Greenstein designed a quilt at Kensington School one year based on a hats theme. Each volunteer picked a hat square drawn by Greenstein and hand embroidered it. The quilt was sewn together and auctioned off to raise funds for the school.

Greenstein's mother, herself a painter, gave her a brush, paint and pallet when she was 4 years old and she painted a still-life with her dolls.

Her current major project is a series of 20 shoe portraits. She has completed 11. "I think I am fascinated with shoes because as a child I had to wear orthopedic shoes to correct pigeon toes."

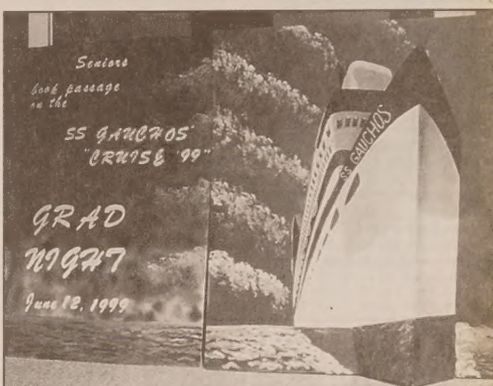
She picks a subject and then has

them select shoes from their closet and arrange those shoes. They are free to include other special objects as well. "These portraits speak volumes about the person whose shoes are being painted," she says. "When the portrait is complete, you realize you are seeing more than just pairs of shoes- you are seeing the person."

One of the pieces from the shoes project will be included in a show starting in mid-April at the El Cerrito

Plaza. This is part of a community exhibition of 25 local artists whose work will be displayed in the shop windows around the Plaza for two months.

The public can also view a number of Greenstein's pieces in her own studio in El Cerrito during the first two weekends in June. This showing will be part of the annual Open Studios event which showcases local artists' work in their own studios.



Local artist Lisa Greenstein's artwork for Grad Night is on display in the main hall of El Cerrito High School.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Albany Sports Camp

The Albany Sports Camp, for youngsters ages 4-12, features activities including soccer, baseball, basketball, Capture the Flag, flag-football, street hockey and more. The camp is broken into 12 one-week sessions. Extended care available.

For more information, call Program Director Norm Friedman at 559-8208 (evenings and weekends). During regular business hours, call the Albany Community Center at 524-9283.

Emergency communication

Learn and practice the essential components of the NEAT Emergency Communication System from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 17, at the fire station, 1520 Arlington, El Cerrito.

The drill will consist of an emergency communication workshop, followed by message preparation and net practice. As a finale, completed messages will be transmitted by HAM operators to the EOC (Emergency Operations Center).

Carpooling is desirable. NEAT Neighborhoods are also encouraged to have a tabletop or functional drill within the neighborhood, hopefully scheduled not to conflict with the central drill.

For information, contact Pat Cafel at 525-7268 and e-mail cafel@juno.com.

Puppet show

Jackal and Hedgehog will be up to their old tricks when the Johnson Brothers Puppets entertain at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 13, at the Albany Library. The puppet show is presented by the Friends of the Albany Library in conjunction with National Library Week. Children get priority seating. For more information, call Paul Rockwell at 526-3720, ext. 17.

The directors of the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District will discuss proposals for changes in garbage rates and services at their next regular board meeting on April 13 at 7:30

p.m.

A special meeting will be held on April 22 at 7:30 p.m. to vote on the proposal. If approved, the proposed changes will take effect Sept. 1.

The proposed change in service is the introduction of a 20-gallon mini-can, at a reduced rate from the standard 32-gallon single can rate. An additional change is proposed in rates this would remove the discount for multiple cans.

The proposed changes have been introduced as a way to meet the requirements set forth in a Memorandum of Understanding between Contra Costa County and Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District, and to encourage recycling in order to meet state mandates in regards to landfill reduction.

Proposed monthly rates are as follows: 20-gallon mini-can, \$16.50 monthly; 32-gallon can, \$20.50; 32-gallon can (2), \$41; 32-gallon can (3), \$61.50; 32-gallon can (4), \$82; 40-gallon can (available only to current users), \$46.70; 45-gallon can (available only to current users), \$59.50.

DeHarts have a son

Albany High School teachers Dave and Karen DeHart gave birth to Lucas Casey, their first son, at 11:11 a.m., April 4. The arrival of a new brother Easter Sunday was a big surprise to Lucas Casey's 7-year-old sisters, twins Sarah and Kylee. Both Karen and Lucas are resting comfortably at Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley, though Dave is still recovering.

Students attend festival

Over 45 students from Albany High School returned from a successful trip to the Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Ore., Sunday, April 5.

The three-day stay included a backstage actors workshop and the viewing of three plays, including "Othello," "Chicago" (the original play) and "The Good Person of Szechuan."

Students from of El Cerrito High School, however, may be banned from viewing works by the Bard next

year. Festival sources say rowdy and disrespectful students are to blame.

A representative from the Stratford Hotel in Ashland where students from both high schools stayed complained that ECHS students were "unruly and loud," and destroyed hotel property.

Cast members were so upset by disruptions caused by some students from ECHS that they marched over to the Stratford Hotel and identified those that created the disturbances.

Crime watch meetings

The first in a series of neighborhood crime watch meetings for residents living near Memorial Park will be held Saturday, April 10, at 10 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building.

According to police sources, there are ongoing problems with juveniles at the park, especially in the evenings, incidents including brawls and alcohol.

According to Albany Police Chief Larry Murdo, the evening of the first of two armed robberies occurred at Britt-Marie's on Solano Avenue, police had just handcuffed young men engaged in an altercation there.

The robbery report forced officers to free juveniles arrested at the park so police could respond to the call.

Murdo article to be published

In other police news, Chief Larry Murdo recently consented to a request made by Steck-Vaughn Berrent, a New York-based publisher that plans on publishing an article written by Murdo in a national children's workbook.

The Murdo piece, written about the Chief Operator Program in Albany, was originally published in national FBI magazine.

Blood pressure machine

Fire Chief Marc McGinn announced that the Albany Senior Center will have a blood pressure machine available for residents' use in mid-May.

The machine is being installed as part of the city's wellness program.

WEST COUNTY SCHOOL WATCH

Tobacco free youth ordinance moves forward in West County

By Glen Price

Contra Costa County recently passed an ordinance to protect youth from tobacco advertising, make it more difficult for young people to buy tobacco products and establish ways to discourage merchants from selling tobacco to minors. Although the ordinance only applies to the unincorporated areas of the county, cities in Contra Costa are now looking at enacting the same or similar ordinances.

On Monday, April 5, the El Cerrito City Council became the first in West County to approve such an ordinance, the action taking place by unanimous vote.

In approving the ordinance, the El Cerrito City Council approved a stronger measure than that adopted by the county, incorporating a provision to require universal licensing of tobacco vendors. In proposing the change, Councilman Mark Friedman noted, "I would much prefer proactive licensing where we go out and educate in advance of sales to minors."

According to the Contra Costa County Tobacco Prevention Coalition, the tobacco industry spends about \$18 million a year to market and advertise their products in Contra Costa. Much of those promotion efforts are aimed at children and youth.

In the past 10 years, since California voters passed Proposition 99, there has been a raised awareness about the dangers of smoking. The rate of adult smoking has come down dramatically. However,

data provided by the Tobacco Prevention Coalition indicates that youth smoking rates continue to rise.

Efforts by cities in West County to control access to tobacco products by children and youth and limitations on tobacco advertising in proximity to school sites builds on the anti-tobacco programs in our schools. For more information on the status of the Tobacco Free Youth Ordinance contact Denise Dennis, Tobacco Prevention Project Manager at Contra Costa Health Services (925/313-6825).

Earth Day Activities at Mira Vista Elementary

Mira Vista Elementary School invites all community members to Mira Vista School, 205 Mira Vista Way, East Richmond on Saturday, April 17, at 9:30 a.m. for their Earth Day planting and potluck picnic. There will be activities for children and a raffle as a benefit for the Mira Vista School Gardens Project. Please bring a shovel, wheelbarrow, gloves, and your enthusiasm and join us for this exciting planting day and celebration.

Activities will include planting a California Native garden around the Oak Circle in the field below the schoolyard, planting a bird and butterfly habitat, and lastly, on the hill above the play structure, an erosion control garden.

For more information see next week's column or contact June Kemerling 236-0902 or e-mail JKemerling@aol.com.

Turn off your TV

Is a brain that has watched TV or played countless hours of video games different from one that has not? And would it be harder to educate in a traditional classroom?

The answer to both questions appears to be "yes," according to Dr. Jane Healy in a recent article posted on the TV Free America Web site (<http://www.tvfa.org/theory.htm>). Check out the Web site for more information on National "Turn Your TV" week, April 22-28. It is a national effort in its fifth year, organized by TV Free America (TVFA.ORG) in Washington, D.C. The goal is to have school children and their families spend a week away from the tube, engaged in other activities. Yes, we can do it!

Want to receive West County School Watch and other action alerts on local school issues? Send the message "Subscribe" to glen@aol.com. Glen Price is a member of the WCCUSD school board; the opinions and views expressed in West County School Watch are his own and do not reflect official views or positions of the school board or WCCUSD, unless otherwise noted. Back issues of West County School Watch and other sundry items can be found on the West County School Watch Web site: <http://www.igc.org/westcounty/>

"Juggling Tornado" lands at Buddy Club

"The Buddy Club," presents The Juggling Tornado juggling pins, knives, bowling balls and even rubber chickens, while riding a 6-foot unicycle. Singer Mary Spaulding, will

also appear.

The shows are targeted for kids two through 10 and their parents.

The performance takes place Sunday, April 11, 11 a.m. to noon

at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marion Ave. in Albany. Tickets are \$6, under 2 free. For more information call SHOW.

Self defense classes offered in El Cerrito

The City of El Cerrito will be offering a new series of classes. They are:

"Women's Self Defense." The key to self defense is a willingness and an ability to take instant action. This class will give you the tools to assess your options and to take action.

The workshop is on Saturday April 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Fee is \$20 for residents, \$25 for non-residents.

"Beginning Swing, Jitterbug," Thursdays, April 8 - 29, 4:30-5:45 p.m.

"Beginning West Coast Swing," Thursdays, April 8-29, 5:45-7 p.m. Fee for above two classes is \$28 for residents, \$35 for non-residents.

"Jazz Tap Dance." This class is for beginning and intermediate ages 10 and older. Have fun while keeping fit. Thursdays, April 8-29, 7-8 p.m. Fee is \$28 for residents and \$35 for non-residents.

for non-residents.

"Acting for Fun." This class will offer comprehensive and effective techniques to develop students' capabilities to read body language, and to use it to influence mind and well-being.

This class is open to students 14 years and older. Fridays April 12-23, 7-8 p.m. Fee is \$28 for residents and \$35 for non-residents.

Details: Judie Bellotti, 215-4371.

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Clinton divorce a TV blockbuster?

Multimedia Notes

By Bill Mann

Bucks for Clinton TV Divorce Rights?—The National Enquirer reported the day on page 1 that the Clintons have secretly separated, that they will be living apart most of the time and keeping up the facade of marriage for the rest of the President's term. On her syndicated show on KGO-TV the morning after, she had less authority on marriage than Rosie O'Donnell pre-empted. "I give Hillary 2-3 tops, before she dumps me," she said.

I learned exclusively from a source that there will indeed be a divorce trial—the ultimate Steel Cage Match—is being scheduled around the first and last month's rent cleaning deposit. And his lawyer, an agent representing the Uncouple. Exclusive TV will go to the highest bidder.

White House insider revealed me when promised confidentiality, explaining: "Bottom line, the President is flat-out broke. He's like a Yugo dealership. Bill Clinton even has a place to live. He moves out of here. In fact, he has trouble coming up with the first and last month's rent cleaning deposit. And his lawyer, an agent representing the Uncouple. Exclusive TV will go to the highest bidder."

For Hillary, do you know how many Manhattan townhouses she has? Cheap. Not to mention a Senate from New York. Nope, living in NYC won't cut it.

You can just forget about the two living apart or having an out-of-court divorce settlement. Bill and Hillary need cold cash, so we're telling national TV, "Show us the money."

High-level administration sources also revealed the leading bid for the multimillion-dollar divorce rights to the big divorce trial.

They are: Lifetime Cable, which wants to air off a TV-movie called, "A Woman Betrayed"; Court TV, which will feature a two-hour coverage titled, "The Clinton Divorce Trial"; and the Fox Network, which is moving toward calling the public hearing, "When High-Priced Divorce Attacks."

USA Cable, which plans on using the WWF's Mankind, Stone Cold Steve Austin and Sable, as expert inside courtroom commentators, along with a Beverly Hills divorce attorney nicknamed "Cohen the Barbarian," who bills clients \$500 an hour. The Clintons are ready to rumble.

The President, one close friend says, isn't worried about losing to his wife in a nasty televised divorce. "The President told me, 'If she handles the divorce like she handled health care, I'm in.'" The Chief Executive's key defense against Hillary's charges, the Presidential pal revealed: "I never had sex with that woman." There's also talk of a cross-promotion deal with MTV, which wants to produce a Monica-vs.-Chelsea "Celebrity Death Match."

One TV exec close to these sensitive negotiations told me, "With so many stained dresses being submitted into evidence, whoever wins the rights will have to hire a wardrobe mistress." The network suit added, "But that's the least of our problems. How about the expense of Hillary calling all those female witnesses to testify—all the women who've allegedly had affairs with the President? There aren't enough hotel rooms in Washington to accommodate them. If we win the broadcast rights to the trial, we've made contingency plans to lease the entire Army base at Fort Belvoir, Va., to house all the President's female 'admirers.'"

One of the emotional high points of the TV coverage, the network planner predicted, is sure to be the wrenching custody battle over the First Pets, Socks and Buddy. "It could be a real dogfight, and I see this part of the trial being sponsored by Meow Mix or Alpo," the TV exec said, salivating. "There's commercial gold here. We might even offer a sponsorship to that bulldog who owns the long-distance company. It's gonna be huge. You could get \$350,000 for a 30-second spot. As our clients at Ralston-Purina say, that ain't exactly chicken feed."

Other sources familiar with the sensitive and secret negotiations report that the dividing of the First Couple's community property could be another emotional high point of the televised trial. "This is

so big it could even siphon viewers away from 'All My Children,'" says one TV programmer. "This has the potential to send Jerry Springer back to practicing drainage and seepage law in Cincinnati."

About the First Family's property split-up, one Clinton aide says, "No way is the President going to let Hillary take his treasured collection of Hooters T-shirts or his tricked-out Humvee."

And a close friend of The First Lady reveals that Mrs. Clinton will "fight like a deranged razorback hog" for sole ownership of the just-completed manuscript for her book about the Lewinsky affair, "It Takes a Spillage." The future of the Clintons' modest Ozark vacation home in Septic, Ark., is also sure to be a bone of contention, as well as the prized Presidential all-you-can-eat free lifetime pass to Wendy's.

Three storage-locker facilities the Chief Executive owns near Little Rock are rumored to contain several metric tons of fried pork rinds and could also cause bitter courtroom scenes as lawyers battle for the rights to the nation's largest privately held reserves of cholesterol.

I've also learned during my exhaustive Hills Papers investigation that Hillary Clinton's aides are pushing for Judge Judy to preside over the historic TV trial. (I can almost see her now: "Sir, you did WHAT with one of your interns? Judgment for the plaintiff, you moron!") The President's legal and media advisers, I hear, want the more lenient Judge Ed Koch ("cheating, scheming") to preside. "Koch has far more TV legal experience," said one Clinton adviser. "Besides, Koch is a natural. The camera loves him. He's so... judge-like."

Since branding is so important in TV these days, a title and a complete graphics package for the blockbuster divorce trial are being designed. Clintonmania I (the working title) will also need theme and incidental music, too, of course.

I've also learned that Celine Dion may come out of retirement to sing the touching theme song which Randy Travis is now writing. It's called, "You Stuffed My Heart In An Old Tin Can and Shot It Off a Log."

E-mail Bill Mann at newsman@aol.com

There's just no excuse good enough for not paying taxes

Snappshots

By Martin Snapp

'Enclosed please find my estimated tax return. You'll note that I did not sign my name. If I have to guess how much I'm going to earn, you can guess who sent this in.'

Death And Taxes: Well, April 15 is almost upon us, which means it's time for my annual "My Cat Ate My Tax Return" column.

Once again, we check in with Larry Wright at the Oakland IRS office for some of the funniest dodges, excuses and scams that the taxpayers tried to get away with this year. And once again, he has some real beauts.

As always, this column is dedicated to my long-suffering accountant, Barbara Chadwick of Oakland, who has the world's greatest business address in San Francisco: 400 Montgomery St., Suite 1040. I'm sorry I was so late getting my tax info to you this year, Barbara. I promise to be a good boy next year. (Of course, that's what I promised last year.)

And now, the lame excuses:

■ The accountant of a deceased taxpayer who wrote, "You ask why Mr. did not file his 1998 return. The above-named taxpayer was unable to renew his non-renewable lease on life and left no forwarding address. If at some time in the future I should see him in Heaven, I will pass on your request for his tax return. If, on the other hand, he went to the other place, you can get it yourself!"

■ The man who sent a Special Delivery letter to the IRS that arrived before his tax return did. "I was doing my taxes and writing my girlfriend at the same time," he wrote. "She got the tax return, which means you're going to get the love letter, and it's really, REALLY personal. Could you please return it without reading it?" ("We get 11 1/2 million pieces of mail at our Fresno service station alone, so it's going to be like looking for a needle in a haystack," says Wright. "But we'll give it a try.")

■ The man who was confused because he kept getting a negative amount on his tax return. "Well, it says, 'Subtract line 8 from line 7,'" he said. "And 8 from 7 is minus-1, isn't it?"

■ The woman who apologized because she was faxing the IRS the same one-page document, over and over and over again. "I don't know what I'm doing wrong," she said. "It's the first time I've ever used a fax machine. I keep putting the paper in, but for some reason it

keeps coming out the other side."

■ The guy who indignantly demanded, "Why do you keep contacting me? Didn't you get my death notice? I mailed it to you!"

■ The woman who asked, "How do I get a Social Security number for my dog?"

■ The woman who discovered an uncashed tax refund check from 1952 in her attic, then called the IRS and asked, "How can you people balance your checkbook if you've had \$18 outstanding since 1952?" (FYI: The IRS collects \$16 trillion in taxes every year.)

■ The man who was mad because the IRS rejected his application because his Social Security number was fake. "Whaddaya mean my Social Security number is bogus?" he snarled. "I bought it myself 10 years ago and I've been using it ever since!"

■ The woman who requested "a WD-40 form." Says Wright: "She obviously wanted to grease the skids."

■ The man who wrote, "I'm a little short on cash these days, so I'm enclosing coupons in the hope you can cash them in and give me credit on the tax I owe."

■ The woman who asked, "Can I deduct the cost of alteration to my clothes? I deducted the medical expenses for my breast enhancement surgery, and the clothes alteration are all part of the package."

■ The man who wrote, "I can't afford to pay. How do I cheat legally?"

■ The woman who asked the IRS to send her a pamphlet titled, "Loopholes." (There isn't any such pamphlet, needless to say.)

■ The labor union official who, through a typographical error, claimed a deduction for "out-of-picket" expenses.

■ The woman who asked, "Can I deduct my Barbie Doll as a dependent?"

■ The man who hadn't filed for two years because "I couldn't find any tax forms." ("And believe it or not," says Wright, "he was a CPA!")

■ The man who wrote, "Dear IRS, Enclosed please find my estimated tax return. You'll note that I did not sign my name. If I have to guess how much I'm going to earn, you can guess who sent this in."

■ The guy who was caught underestimating his income (which appears at the top at the tax return form) and overestimating his expenses (which appears at the bottom). His explanation: "When my calculator is cold it tends to underestimate numbers. After it warms up, it overestimates numbers."

■ The horseplayer who wanted to deduct his losses at Golden Gate Fields. (You're allowed to do it, up to the amount of your winnings.) He talked to a rookie IRS auditor, who told him to bring in something to document his losses. The next day, the guy showed up with his documentation: an armload of pari-mutuel ticket stubs. The rookie auditor was about to OK the claim when a more experienced hand whispered, "Better check the backs of the tickets first." They all had footprints on the back.

■ And finally, no matter what your frustration, please don't take it out on the IRS clerks. Wright's colleague, Bob Branson, overheard an IRS clerk saying on the phone, "Sir, please watch your language! I don't have to listen to words like that! Reverend, I'm ashamed of you!"

Phone Martin Snapp at (510) 273-9079 or e-mail him at catman@california.com

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On Saturday, April 10, 1999, equestrians, hikers, cyclists, park supporters, trail advocates, politicians and everyday people will be gathering in Clayton to celebrate George Cardinet's 90th birthday and thank him for his support for and development of trails over the last 65 years. Festivities will include a parade, performances by dancing horses, equestrian drill teams and ceremonies honoring George's legendary achievements.

Often referred to as the "Father of the California Trail System", George has spent a lifetime promoting and protecting trails. Although he started out interested in local equestrian trail opportunities, his stature in the trail community has been maintained over the years locally, state wide, and nationally. His relentless support for trail resources and opportunities and his moving testimony at hearings from the local level to the halls of Congress in Washington DC was instrumental in the establishment of the National Trail System Act in 1968, inclusion of 3 national trails and the development and support of the Capitol to Capitol Trail, California State Riding and Hiking Trail system and the extensive trail system in Mt. Diablo State Park and the East Bay Regional Park District.

We wish you well, George, on your 90th birthday and look forward to your continued leadership into the new millennium as we work together to expand and protect our precious trail resources.

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UC-Berkeley grads Delehunt, Ricketts active in El Cerrito politics

Husband and wife have definite ideas about the city and its future

By J. R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—Anne Delehunt and Grant Ricketts got involved in El Cerrito politics in the early 1990s and both have definite ideas about the city and its future.

Delehunt was born and raised here. Ricketts moved to the area from Southern California in the late 1970s to attend UC-Berkeley. Ricketts has owned a home in El Cerrito since 1981.

They met in 1984, married in 1988, and are regulars at City Council meetings and other civic functions.

Both are part of the Services for the 21st Century Committee of the Whole, of which Delehunt is co-chair. Delehunt was campaign manager for Larry Damon's successful 1997 City Council run, and Ricketts is a frequent speaker at public meetings.

"El Cerrito is like a gem. It's like one of the last best-kept secrets of the inner Bay Area," Ricketts said. "It's a nice little pocket. It's situated on the inner bay as opposed to the outer bay. It's a nice comfortable place. It's an affordable place. It's connected to Berkeley."

Ricketts is a frequent critic of the city's Redevelopment Agency and urges organic development for the city. He said Emeryville's success in attracting business is an example of natural growth.

"What triggered the success is you had companies like Chiron and Sybase move in there," Ricketts said.

The "commercial office business success," Ricketts said, then attracted retail business which then attracted housing development. He said these "quality businesses" acted as a catalyst for Emeryville's success. Ricketts said there is still land at the north end of El Cerrito where such development could occur.

Both Ricketts and Delehunt take a

dim view of large retail "big box" development, such as Home Depot or the new Staples on San Pablo Avenue.

"The question to ask is 'Should El Cerrito be more like Berkeley or should El Cerrito be more like Pinole?'" Ricketts said.

"The reason I have supported redevelopment and I think a lot of people have is because we wanted something to happen at the Plaza that would reflect community values," Delehunt said. "I wanted better-quality development. I did not want big-box development," she said.

In 1993 and 1994, Delehunt was a member of the city's Redevelopment Advisory Committee that studied land uses in El Cerrito.

She said her time as an RAC member was frustrating because "as time went on we were not getting the kinds of projects that we wanted." Delehunt said the city was "continuing to get big-box development."

She said she supports having a "mechanism to invigorate the commercial community" in El Cerrito, but added that the city needs a "much more-focused strategic plan to get the kinds of businesses people want."

Delehunt, who has a bachelor's degree in history from UC-Berkeley and a master's degree in business administration from Harvard, works as a marketing consultant. She has worked on political campaigns in the past, including Jerry Brown's recent Oakland mayoral victory. Delehunt also does volunteer work in Oakland for Habitat for Humanity, building affordable housing for low-income people.

Ricketts, who has a bachelor's degree in economics and a master's degree in business administration from UC-Berkeley, is vice president of business development for Saba Software in Burlingame. Ricketts was part of the company's original "start-up management team" and the company has



ANNE DELEHUNT, pictured with a younger looking Jerry Brown.



GRANT RICKETTS, pictured with Gen. Colin Powell.

grown from "a few of us in a garage" to more than 120 employees in less than two years. Saba specializes in software for professional education services for large enterprises and independent-training companies.

Ricketts said the Redevelopment Agency has failed, and the issue now is how to "go forward to start looking at more positive things." He said he has been willing "to step up and speak up" about redevelopment, which is why he is seen as anti-redevelopment. He said he was a "very outspoken" critic of a planned Del Norte area movie theater in 1995-1996. He said he has to speak up when he sees "bad behavior" by civic planners.

"My view was, 'Fine, shoot your arrows. I'm going to take them,'" Ricketts said. What El Cerrito needs, Ricketts said, are people "who understand how to do the right thing." He said the city needs more "market and economic" development, especially business growth as opposed to retail. Ricketts said the focus should be on ways to increase El Cerrito's disposable income, since this would lead to greater spending and increased sales-tax revenue to city coffers.

"If you want to increase the sales taxes in El Cerrito, focus on strategies to increase disposable income," Ricketts said.

Delehunt, who is one of three co-chairs of the Committee of the Whole, said hopes the City Council adopts its report on redevelopment.

"I would like them to have championed it and I would like them to pass it," Delehunt said. She also said she hopes the council understands the report is "a real golden opportunity now to get El Cerrito back on track."

The most controversial recommendation from the committee is that the agency go into hiatus until it repays its debt to the city. Delehunt said that when the committee began to look at redevelopment, it was like "unpeeling an onion." She said there were always "more issues

to look at." She said it was a conclusion of the committee that would not pass any type of increase or bond measure if the city services if the agency's the city is not repaid.

But Ricketts and Delehunt emphasized they want to look at El Cerrito's future and not the past.

"We have a new council. I think certainly the majority new council is trying very hard to establish trust with the council. Delehunt said. "Some of the lemons of the past should be on their shoulders. I want to move forward. We have a great opportunity

UC-Berkeley students spend a couple of nights out in the rain

By Tony Mercado

UC-Berkeley junior Noah Schubert didn't mind camping out in the rain Monday on the doorsteps of the university's housing office.

If school officials don't find a way, and soon, to provide more affordable student housing, the 21-year-old student said, he might as well get used to sleeping outdoors.

"There's going to be a lot of us out in the cold, as we are now, if the university doesn't come through," said Schubert.

About a dozen students calling themselves the Berkeley Coalition for Student Housing, huddled in jackets and sleeping bags for the second night in a row. Many of the same students slept Sunday night by the front door of Chancellor Robert Berdahl's home.

University officials countered the protesters' message, saying the

school is working to ease the housing crunch. Jesus Mena, a university spokesman, said Cal plans to add 400 to 500 beds within the next five years in Berkeley and Oakland.

"We know there's a problem," said Mena. "We're trying hard, and we're working on it."

Officials and students blame a Jan. 1 change in state rent control laws that let landlords charge market rates for vacant rentals. Average rents have risen 20 percent this year. Cal officials, though, said they recognized a desperate need for more student housing long before the new law.

A recent Associated Students survey found that 43 percent of students have been temporarily homeless since first coming to Cal. Seventy percent of commuting students said they couldn't move closer to campus because of a lack of affordable housing.

Students said they pay as much as \$1,400 for a studio. Three-bedroom units can run as high as \$2,000.

"For a student, that's outrageous," said Kaci Elder, a 22-year-old senior who was part of the sleep-out protest. "A lot of us are starting to feel like we don't have any options."

In 1990, the university's board of regents approved a long-range plan that called for 2,000 to 4,000 more beds.

Among the slated projects, Cal officials said they plan to rebuild office space near People's Park to provide 200 beds. Two dining facilities in dormitories will be closed and re-

built as rooms for another 200 beds. Underhill, a full square block of university land slated for renovation, will include dining commons, administrative offices and parking. Student housing there could offer 300 to 500 beds, said Irene Hegarty, Cal's director of community relations.

And a short-term partnership with Oakland's Mills College will allow students in the fall to fill a vacant dormitory with 60 beds. The university also has created 75 new spaces

by putting two or three students in one dorm room.

City Councilman Kriss Worthington, clad in pajamas and clutching a

teddy bear at the protest, said the university is not moving fast.

"If we don't start doing this now, we'll never see those beds," he said.

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Opinion

VIEWPOINTS

Scoops for Schools is coming

By Sally Outis

PRESIDENT, ALBANY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Albany Education Foundation has received numerous inquiries as the date for its annual ice cream social, "Scoops for Schools." We would like the community to know that the event is scheduled for Sunday, April 11, from 1-5 p.m. at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany.

Instead of a fund-raiser, AEF board members and volunteers are working hard to make this year's event an opportunity to thank the community for its support of AEF grant-making and fund raising. The program will feature music by various groups who have received AEF grants, interviews with other projects funded this year, displays of artwork made possible by AEF grants, and demonstrations of equipment purchased with grant funds, and other ways to illustrate to the community the importance of their support for AEF.

This year's event will also mark the official end of AEF's 1998-99 campaign to raise \$50,000 to "Put Albany's Schools on Top!" We are nearing the end, but there is still time for anyone who has not yet donated to the campaign to send their check to AEF, 1320 Solano Ave., Suite 102, Albany, 95006.

We look forward to this opportunity to acknowledge community support for AEF and Albany schools. There will be no charge for admission to the ice cream social. Any voluntary donations will, of course, be gratefully accepted. Our sincere thanks to the citizens of Albany and the local and area businesses who have given so generously to AEF year after year.

Commute and observe Earth Day at the same time

RIDES for Bay Area commuters is helping commuters make the world greener by encouraging them to use a commute alternative at least once before Earth Day, April 22. Those who carpool, vanpool, take a bike, walk or telecommute will be eligible to win \$1,000 or other prizes.

RIDES' Earth Day Promotion, "Make Your World a Little Greener," encourages Bay Area commuters to try alternatives to driving alone and save money and time while they help the environment. Annually, commuters who share the ride, bicycle, walk or telecommute help keep approximately 16.3 million pounds of pollutants out of the Bay Area's air. Using an alternative to solo driving can save a commuter up to \$3,000 a year. The grand prize is \$1,000. Other prizes include a romantic Napa Valley getaway package from Stahlecker House Bed & Breakfast, River City Restaurant and Executive Limousine; and store and merchandise gift certificates.

To be eligible, participants must complete a form pledging to use a commute alternative at least once before Earth Day. Enter by phone by calling RIDES at 800-755-POOL or online at www.rides.org. Entries will be received by April 30 to be eligible for the drawing. Winners will be announced May 14.

RIDES' Web site is a virtual one-stop shop for "green" commuting. In addition to the site's information on commute alternatives, new features for Earth Day have been added, including:

"Commuter Tales"—commuters who share their "green" commute stories can win \$200.

Environmental Calculator—commuters can find out how much

drive-alone commute impacts the environment.

Commuters desiring a "green" commute can get free commute assistance by contacting RIDES at 800-755-POOL or www.rides.org. In addition to carpool and vanpool services, RIDES provides free information on public transit, bicycling, telecommuting and walking to work.

Commuters can receive referrals to bus, rail or ferry services and obtain local maps of Park & Ride lots and diamond lanes throughout the Bay Area by contacting RIDES.

RIDES is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping Bay

commuters find and use alternatives to driving alone. RIDES is supported by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the California Department of Transportation, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the Federal Highway Administration.

Fun facts

Using diamond lanes saves car-poolers and van-poolers an average of 15 minutes per day round-trip on their commutes.

Bay Area commuters assisted by RIDES conserved more than 12 million gallons of fuel during 1998.

One-quarter of Bay Area commuters live within five miles of their ideal distance for bicycling or walking.

In 1998, commuters who sought help from RIDES and changed modes of commuting kept 16.3 million pounds of pollutants and 247 million pounds of carbon dioxide out of the Bay Area's air.

After 10 years, the average Bay Area car has put out its weight in carbon dioxide, one that has been sitting for an hour or more, pollutes the times more than a warm car. This is because the engine's air control device, the catalytic converter, takes several minutes to warm up and work efficiently. Linking trips and keeping the engine warm can avoid cold starts.

A one-mile trip emits up to 70 percent as much pollution as a 10-mile trip with several stops. Cutting cold starts by 25 percent could cut up to 97 tons of pollutants from the Bay Area's air each day.

You must drive on days with unhealthy air, drive your newest car. New cars generally pollute less than older models.

El Cerrito to celebrate Earth Day

Earth Day is being celebrated again this year in El Cerrito by having parties in the morning on Saturday, April 24, followed by a free picnic for all participants. There are already over 30 sites throughout the city, including a Sustainable El Cerrito Site on the Ohlone Greenway.

If you are interested in participating, contact Site Coordinator Janet Abelson at Abeljanet@aol.com. This year's event is cosponsored by the City of El Cerrito, Sustainable El Cerrito, and the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce, and the co-chairs are Janet Abelson and Joann Steck-Bayat.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's spring forward, fall back

Those of your readers who believe everything they read in the newspapers may get into a lot of trouble if they follow your advice that they set their clocks back on Sunday.

In the first place, they should really reset their clocks before going to bed on Saturday, but, more importantly, they should set them FORWARD.

In the future, remember the daylight saving (not savings) clock adjustment motto: "Spring forward, fall back."

Dagmar Searle

(We wish that we could say it was just a bad attempt at an April Fool's joke, but it wasn't. The banner head was a mistake that somehow slipped past everyone who looked at that front page. We apologize for any inconvenience, and we promise to get it right when we "fall back" this autumn.)

Time for a reality check

As he usually does, J.R. Deaton provided a good, factual report on the meeting last Monday of the Redevelopment Advisory Committee (RAC). My purpose in writing is to add some information he may not have been aware of.

First, William Commerford's diatribe was false and defamatory. A major falsehood was that I am the author of the report of the Committee of the Whole (CoTW). My role has been to provide the facts he said are incorrect, though he offered no evidence as to which if any are incorrect. I was also part of a subcommittee whose chore was to be sure that the CoTW report is factual, a group on which Rich Bartke and John Ward also served. We did not alter the facts or the conclusions, just made sure the language was proper. Among his other falsehoods was the claim that the Target store provides \$250,000 in sales tax to the city, a common claim by agency staff that is unsupported by data.

As reported by J.R., Commerford claimed that some members of the CoTW have used that group to carry out a "kamikaze attack" on the agency. If the vast majority of the CoTW were convinced in open meetings of the need to have the agency repay its debt, such an attack is obviously not feasible. After closing his diatribe, which he read from a prepared statement, he flatly refused to provide a copy when asked for by Peter Loubal.

Of major importance is the fact that agency staff did not provide the RAC with the numerical analyses that accompany the CoTW report sent to the council, analyses the RAC needed to make a rational decision. Those show clearly that the agency will be in fiscal deficit near-term if it continues to pay its staff and to pay city staff part time. Since that is shown so clearly and since the agency debt to the city is approaching

\$900,000, the CoTW concluded that paying the debt is the top priority and can only be done with dispatch by suspending agency activity for a short time.

Since the agency's advent in 1977, any number of then existing businesses have either folded or left town: Emporium, Woolworth's, Travelini Furniture, Albert's Nursery, Pay-n-Pak, Foodco, the Discount Mart, the Silver Dollar, Maxwell's and others too numerous to mention in this brief missive. If that's the evidence of the agency's merit in aiding local business, it should be disbanded and not suspended.

It's time for a reality check, and that's what the CoTW report proposes. It deserves to be adopted by the City Council.

George Amberg
El Cerrito

A valuable community resource

Twice a year, residents of El Cerrito receive a wonderful resource: the award-winning City Brochure. The Spring-Summer 1999 Brochure has arrived, full of information about city services, recreation programs and classes, and community events.

Check out upcoming events such as the NEAT Party on April 20 and Earth Day on April 24. Read about the Cerrito Vista Park playground campaign. This Brochure's highlights include Y2K preparedness steps, recycling tips, and a community phone directory. I always keep the Brochure right by my phone with the phone books. Extra copies of the Brochure are available at the Community Center on Mooser.

Kudos to the city staff, especially editor Mersina Purlantov and cover artist Debbie Weeks, for presenting this valuable community asset.

Pat Cafel
El Cerrito

Delay vote on EC tax measure

It has come to my attention that certain members of our City Council have pulled yet another "behind the back" deal.

As many of you know, our City Council loaned \$150,000 to the city manager, Gary Pokorny, when he was hired. This money was to be used to buy a house in the El Cerrito Hills. Some two weeks later he requested another \$25,000 to complete the transaction, for a total of \$175,000.

In October of 1997 the City Council, comprised of Norma Jellison, Norman La Force, Jane Bartke, Mark Friedman and Gina Brusatori, voted to forgive the interest on this loan if Mr. Pokorny would pay off \$150,000. This vote was 4 to 0 (with Gina Brusatori not in attendance) and was the last act of the council under Norman Jel-

lison as mayor. At the same time they voted to give Mr. Pokorny 18 months pay if he was fired as city manager. (His previous contract had given him six months pay.)

The city staff has recommended that the current council tax our citizens to create funds for basic city services. The forgiveness of interest on Mr. Pokorny's money would have amounted to approximately \$125,000. This money would go a long way in creating revenue for our basic services.

Our recourse is to stand up to the city staff and council and say no to a tax. The city manager will then threaten the layoff of police and fire personnel. No one wants to hear this—it sounds dangerous. What is even more dangerous is the imposing of the utility tax that was not voted on by the citizens of El Cerrito and the imposing of the property transfer tax that the Supreme Court of California has ruled as illegal, not to mention the previous votes by La Force and Bartke to give \$1.5 million to Del Norte Plaza and to let Rubicon buy property on San Pablo Avenue that would have otherwise generated tax revenue.

The citizens of El Cerrito cannot afford to let the city staff and council dictate to and impose another tax against us. At least we cannot afford to impose another tax while there are still members of the council that voted to give tax money away and a city manager who took advantage. This would not make sense. There are still members on the city staff and council who cannot be trusted. Let's wait on any new taxes until after the November elections.

Bob Winslow
El Cerrito

Everyone's a winner

The AHS Booster Club and Track & Field fund-raiser folks thought it would be nice to inform all those people out there who bought raffle tickets who had the winning tickets.

First prize winner of the Schwann bike from Solano Avenue Cycler went to Clay Larson of Albany; second prize winner of the watch from Richards Jewelers went to Felix Rivera of Albany; and third prize winner of the \$100 certificate to Mary & Joe's went to Jane Wolff of Berkeley.

The raffle was a huge success, and helped those involved in bringing back track and field to Albany High to reach out to the community to let them know about this important addition to the high school program, and to raise needed funds at the same time.

Thank you for running the article and picture of the members posing at Solano Avenue Cycler. We got many, many phone calls from people interested in helping because they saw the article.

Stacy Bock,
Co-president AHS Athletic Booster Club

PUBLISHER • SCOTT LITTLE

EDITOR • CHRIS TREADWAY

ALBANY • EL CERRITO • KENSINGTON

THE JOURNAL

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"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Personal Reflection

By Eric Turowski



WRITER Eric Turowski (right) is all smiles after meeting comic book creator Shannon Wheeler, formerly of Berkeley.

Comic festival rekindles memories of childhood

Walking through the crowded aisles of WonderCon, I see living phantasms of myself from the past.

For 11 years, I have attended this convention, enough time to see reflections of myself in others:

- The damp-palmed fan shakily handing over a comic book to his favorite creator for a signature.

- The wanna-be artist dragging his portfolio from art editor to art editor (only, I'm sure, to receive the same advice given to me: you have to draw, all the time, every day; anything you see, you sketch—or give it up, kid).

- The schmoozing creator, trading publications and griping about distribution with "the peers."

- The ardent collector looking for issue 29 of Jumbo Comics.

- The professional, talking with friends and contacts—all of these were myself, at one time or another.

I associate WonderCon with a number of high points in my life. The one that most sticks in my mind is the time I received a press kit from Dark Horse Comics, and found a clip of one of my reviews alongside one from the Washington Post. That

kind of thing can make your day.

WonderCon is an opportunity to meet movie and TV actors, artists, writers, publishers and producers who have influenced your life—maybe a little, maybe a lot—and find out that they are just regular folks who do what they love for a living. For these people, who mostly work in a vacuum, it has to be nice to hear what people think of your creations. It has been personally gratifying to thank those who have brought a little fun into my life.

But there is more to WonderCon than a place to meet media professionals. It is a museum constructed of displays from trivialities and idle moments. Toys from my childhood, still pristine in gaudy bubble packs, hawked at astounding prices. Comic books I purchased and read to tatters, here sealed in plastic envelopes and exhibited as fine art. Comic books my father purchased and read to tatters, now protected like historic documents. Pulp's grandfathers purchased, their cheap paper barely withstanding the test of time.

The past creeps up on you. Stories of my mother sneaking into the junkyard with all the neighborhood kids and reading discarded stacks of comics and true crime magazines. My father's admission of his boyhood crush on Mary Marvel (she wore the first mini-skirt, he claims).

All this personal history on parade makes you feel part of a culture, even if it is just pop or junk culture. Little things on display in this, at first glance, homogenous marketplace, just seem to jump out at you and haul you down Memory Lane.

Somehow, it is a comfort to know that someone is paying attention to these relics of escapism.

So, as you walk through the crowded aisles of WonderCon, if you gaze at the dazzling four-color panorama, you may remember being a kid again.

And if you peer beyond the brightly colored displays, you might just see four generations of Americans happily passing their leisure time.



Wham! WonderCon event coming to Oakland

Giant comic book festival slated for three-day run at the Convention Center

By Corey Lyons

It's Woodstock, without the nudity. The 13th annual WonderCon comic book spectacular, which seizes the streets of downtown Oakland this month, is an event that lures thousands of free spirits from across the country.

If Woodstock—a popular weekend hippie festival held on a pasture in Bethel, N.Y.—became a '60s lexicon, why can't WonderCon—a popular weekend comic geek festival held inside a convention center—become a '90s lexicon?

Maybe it will. After all, more than 8,000 souls are expected to flock to the Oakland Convention Center for WonderCon's three-day festival, which begins Friday, April 16.

The convention, an excessive showcase for the comic book industry's motley following, is the largest of its kind in Northern California.

More than 200 professional comic book artists, writers, publishers and

editors only help bolster WonderCon's reputation.

"WonderCon is an entrenched entertainment institution," said Joe Field, who co-owns the event with Mike Friedrich. "It's been around for 13 years. People know we'll be here, year in and year out."

And they keep rolling through the gates. Organizers say more than 100,000 people have attended this convention since 1987.

And about 40 percent of the receipts collected at the gates each year are coming from newcomers, Field said.

That's because there are other attractions here besides garbage dumpster-sized bins filled with back-issue "Green Arrow" comics.

Part of WonderCon's growing appeal is attributed to its diversity. It is a festival that features summer movie previews, industry celebrity signings, panel discussions and the latest trends in Japanese animation.

Also, this year is the presentation

BAM! POP! ZLOP!

What: WonderCon comic book event

When: Friday, April 16, through Sunday, April 18

Where: The Oakland Convention Center, 1001 Broadway, Oakland

Hours: Friday — 12 to 7 p.m.; Saturday — 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday — 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tickets: \$12 adults, \$6 children; 6-and-under free

Call: 464-1120

of the Harvey Awards, the comic book industry's equivalent of the Academy Awards. The ceremony is scheduled for April 16.

Comic book luminaries abound. One of this year's honorary guests is Kevin Smith, whose independent films — "Clerks" and "Chasing Amy" — were wildly popular among Gen Xers and critically acclaimed.

Smith, currently writing "Daredevil" for Marvel Comics, will sign autographs and chat with fans during the event.

Other industry celebs include Bruce Timm (co-producer of "Batman: The Animated Series"); Paul Dini (co-producer, writer "Batman: The Animated Series"); Garth Ennis (writer of "Preacher" and "Hitman" for DC); Phil Lamarr (actor, "Mad TV"); Dan Brereton (writer for "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" comic book) and others.

In addition to heaps of comics, convention junkies will be treated to daily tributes to and panel discussions about Bob Kane. Kane, who created Batman six decades ago, died Nov. 3, 1998. He was 83.

Other guests can simply stare in wide-eyed amusement as thousands of people with similar interests roam the grounds.

"There's lots of pieces to the puzzle," Field said.

Sort of like Woodstock.

Holy millennium! Batman's changed— thanks to Timm

By Corey Lyons

A lot has changed since Adam West and Burt Ward first donned the colorful tights for national TV in 1966.

More than three decades later, the revamped Batman TV series has found a way to lure the nation back inside the Bat Cave.

Of course, there are a few changes. Stripped of its campy appeal, the show is now a jaw-rattling action series— animated, no less.

West's Bruce Wayne, Batman's suave alter-ego, is now a cane-wielding, reclusive grump living in 2050.

Alfred and Commissioner Gordon are dead.

Robin, whose colorful garb is eerily locked up and displayed inside the Bat Cave, has been replaced by an arrogant 17-year-old high school senior named Terry McGuiness.

And Gotham City has creaked open its stale doors to become a slick, futuristic metropolis.

One more thing: Batman's classic midnight blue briefs and gray tights have been replaced by an armor-laden one-piece.

All of this leaves Bruce Timm, co-producer of "Batman Beyond," whose Saturday morning following is a fine balance of kids and adults, a bit dumbfounded.

"The whole show was created to make it more kid-friendly," says Timm, one of the featured guests at the WonderCon comic book convention in Oakland April 16-18.

"But in a lot of ways, I think the show is even more adult-like. It's still a hard-edged action series, a brooding drama. It's got a sharper edge to the vi-

olence. But we've got the best demographics now for kids 2-11. I don't know if they're growing up faster or what.

"Because on its face, it's still a grim, tough series."

The series, which debuted in November 1998, was created to help snag a larger portion of the younger audience that was not tuning in enough to "Batman: The Animated Series."

That Emmy-winning series, a grim drama tailor-made for Batman purists, hooked a massive adult audience.

"Batman Beyond," the third animated TV series collaboration of Paul Dini, Alan Burnett and Timm, showcases the timeless appeal of Warner Brothers' prized franchise.

One can still hear the ear-ringing high-fives from the WB suits. The Three Amigos— Dini, Burnett and Timm— can do no wrong.

"Batman Beyond" has become very, very popular," says Timm, on a telephone call from his San Fernando Valley home. "Last year when we started it we were also doing Batman and Superman at the same time. It got very difficult."

"We'd be working for five minutes on one show, and somebody would be asking questions about another one. It was tough."

So "Batman: The Animated Series" was shelved. The show has been put on "indefinite hold," says Timm, 38.

The utility belt has been passed along to "Batman Beyond" for now. It will begin running twice a week later in the year, Timm says.

The creation of the Emmy-studded Batman animated series is a story of perfect timing— for WB and for Timm himself.



BATMAN comes alive, thanks to the pen of Bruce Timm.

Timm, hired by WB in March 1989, had been writing story boards for "Tiny Toon Adventures."

Meanwhile, WB and Fox were negotiating a deal that would allow Fox to broadcast "Tiny Toons." An animated Batman series was also part of these discussions.

"I was the luckiest man on earth," Timm says of his eventual involvement.

Timm didn't waste much time. A gritty veteran freelancer of the animation business since 1981, Timm started scribbling pictures of the Caped Crusader. During a meeting with WB exec-

utives, Timm brought a stack of his creations to his boss—and she loved them.

Timm and an art director at WB got the green-light to make a one-minute promotional reel on their idea of the show for company executives. It was

"Everyone loved it," says Timm, who worked with John Kricfalusi on "Mighty Mouse: The New Adventure" for CBS prior to being hired at WB.

"We were asked if we'd like to produce it. It took us about a micro second to say yes."

The rest, they say, is animation history. Timm and Dini went on to co-produce "Mask of the Phantasm" (1993) a big screen animated feature in which a new villain terrorizes Gotham City's mob bosses.

Though "Mask of the Phantasm" zled at the box-office, Timm says Batman's big-screen potential is unlimited.

So Joel Schumaker hasn't taken a wrecking ball to the Batman franchise. "At least, by our numbers, there's still a huge following for Batman," Timm says. "I think an audience is smart enough to judge each movie on its own merit."

Batman (1989), which starred Michael Keaton as the Caped Crusader and Jack Nicholson as the Joker, grossed \$251 million here and made among the top money-makers in movie history.

It was followed by "Batman Returns" (\$163 million) "Batman Forever" (\$184 million) and "Batman and Robin" (\$107 million), a campy plague by poor reviews.

"But it opened huge," Timm says. "It showed that people were excited about seeing it."

Real Estate & Home

The Montclarion, The Berkeley Voice, The Piedmonter, The Journal

April 8-9, 1999

Section B

Tarpoft and Talbert The secret joys of home ownership revealed! [B4]

In the Market First-time home buyer? You'll need these tips [B7]

Open Homes Start the weekend early with this list in hand [B8]

Don't quit investments when you leave your job

Conventional wisdom among financial consultants over the years has been that if you are approaching retirement age you should have the lion's share of your portfolio invested in fixed-income investments such as certificates of deposit and bonds.

On the other hand, most financial consultants agreed that younger investors should invest mostly in stocks, which offer the potential to substantially grow in value over many years. By the time retirement rolled around, any money made in the stock market could then be shifted into fixed-income securities.

But times are changing. People are liv-

Money Matters

By Leila Gough

ing longer, healthier lives. The chance of you outliving your assets becomes a real possibility.

Although price inflation is virtually nonexistent today, history shows that this probably will not be the case forever. During periods of high inflation, a fixed-income portfolio may not earn enough interest to offset a rise in prices.

To stay ahead of inflation and help ensure that their clients do not outlive their assets, many financial consultants today advise their clients to keep a portion of their portfolios invested in stocks, even after reaching retirement.

However, the percentage of your portfolio that should comprise stocks also depends on several other factors, including the time period in which you will need the money and your tolerance for risk.

Your financial consultant can recommend a mix of investments tailored to your individual circumstances.

As a rule of thumb, the percentage of your portfolio that should be invested in stocks vs. bonds corresponds with your age.

For example, if you are 50 years old, about 50 percent of your portfolio should be invested in bonds and the other 50 percent in stocks. At age 65, 65 percent of your portfolio should comprise bonds and 35 percent should be allocated to stocks and so on. This technique allows



THIS OAKLAND HOME, a 1928 English Tudor, is featured on the 11th annual Children's Support League home tour.

Deadline looms for home tour registration

Reserve some time Friday and Saturday, April 16 and 17, to attend the 11th annual Children's Support League Kitchen and Home Tour, Boutique and Raffle.

Sponsored by Children's Support League of the East Bay, the self-guided

tour of five homes in Piedmont and Oakland showcases distinctively remodeled kitchens, lovely interior design and beautiful gardens.

One of the featured homes, pictured above, is a 1928 English Tudor with classic hand-hewn timbers, leaded glass win-

dows, archways, loggia and balconies and an updated kitchen in keeping with the charm of the original design.

The Tour includes a stop at the Piedmont Community Center where the pop-

See TOUR, Page B9

Whistling while you work



ALLEN STROSS PHOTO

A VOLUNTEER gets down and dirty with University Avenue Gardeners.

The group weeds and seeds in town on alternate Saturdays. For more info, call (510) 849-2103.

See EVENTS, Page B3

See STOCKS, Page B9

Maybeck



Berkeley Hills Maybeck.....\$795,000
Spectacular Maybeck with Golden Gate bridge view in the North Berkeley hills. Large lot, separate study with fireplace.
VICTOR FILTRO 339-8900 x 248



Elegant, Nearly New + Bay Views.....\$715,000
Voluminous bright rooms detailed of mahogany, marble & granite. 4 BR, 3BA, library, farm rm, 3 frps, 3 car gar. The kitchen is the envy of chefs, 4 ovens, 2 sinks, gas cook top. Completed in 1996. HELEN NICHOLAS 339-8900 x 238



Piedmont Pines Contemporary.....\$500,000
Spectacular 9.5 year old contemporary. 4 BR, 2.5BA, 2591 sq. ft., FDR, family room, adobe tile, hardwood, spa tub, attached garage.
HAL CASTLE 339-8900 x 220

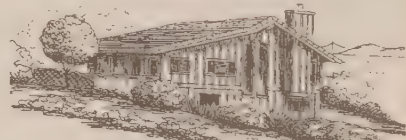


Upper Rockridge Mediterranean.....\$399,000
2+ BR, 1+ BA, FDR, nook, tile fireplace, hwd floors, large private yard, patio, basement for storage/utilities, many built-ins.
JEFF HILGERT 339-8900 x 214

Julia Morgan



Julia Morgan Designed English.....\$679,000
5+BR/3+BA, sunny formal dining room and library, large living room w/fireplace. 2 car garage. Crocker Highlands, near tennis stadium.
JEFF HILGERT 339-8900 x 214



Unobstructed Expansive Views!!!.....\$599,000
Hillier Highlands. Walk to club facilities. Extra spacious, sunny, immaculate 3BR, 3BA end unit. CAROL COHEN 339-8900 x 225



Honeymoon Cottage in the Hills!.....\$295,000
Super charming, brown-shingled, 2-story, 2BR/2BA home nestled in a convenient Montclair location. Private decks and garden.
STEVEN BIASATTI 339-8900 x 239

A VIRTUAL TOUR SAVES YOUR CARPETS

We now offer buyers the ability to view our listings by "touring" several rooms of a home without ever stepping inside. If you would like to maintain some privacy while still marketing your home to millions of prospective buyers each month, please give us a call and we'll tell you how.

Gorgeous Country English.....\$795,000
Lush gardens, fabulous great room. 4+ bedrooms, 3 baths. Library, two kitchens.
DORIS TABOLOFF 339-8900 x 244

Panoramic Bay View!.....\$540,000
Stunning Hillier townhouse, 3+BR/2.5 BA, balcony. Unique garden patio.
MARY HANNA 339-8900 x 253

Romantic Hideaway-Sun + Yard.....\$319,000
1940's cottage style with open beams, hwd floors, a "great" room with fireplace. Private alley access, 2BR/1BA.
LOIS JOHNSON 339-8900 x 226

Colonial Style 4-plex-1st Time!.....\$288,000
Just listed. Laurel District near shopping, bus & freeway. 1 bedroom, with dining L's, hardwood, laundry rooms, garages. Cute units!
D.C. HODGES 339-8900 x 223

Home and Recording Studio Too!.....\$249,000
That's right: a 3+BR home complete w/professional working studio. A rare opportunity that won't last.
PHIL WEINGROW 339-8900 x 245

Grand Lake Condo.....\$179,000
1st time open 1 BR/1.5 BA, den could be home office, family room or for guests. Fireplace, deck. Close to shopping & lake.
TOM ERWIN 339-8900 x 230

Parkwoods Condominiums.....\$173,000
Much sought after Golden Gate model, fireplace, in-unit laundry, deck, community pool, sauna, spa, gym clubhouse.
DEBORAH RINEY 339-8900 x 369

Adorable Starter Home.....\$89,000
2BR/1BA bungalow, sunny & bright. Charming home with archedway. Formal dining room, hardwood flrs. Property needs work. To be sold as is.
VICKI CHAN CASE 339-8900 x 240

More Lots Coming Available.....Various
Conrad Ct. cul-de-sac, Pinehaven Rd., Crockett Place, Bristol Dr., many others available.
ED LINDORFER 339-8900 x 241



LaSalle Properties
Residential Real Estate
211 La Salle Avenue
Oakland, California 94611



www.lasalleprop.com

Look up: Houses for Sale

510.339.8900

Secret Gardens limited tour

A rare opportunity awaits those with a particular interest in the aesthetics of Japanese gardens. In-depth viewings of five outstanding examples of traditional Japanese and Japanese-inspired gardens will be offered to guests on the Limited Edition tour.

The Limited Edition tour takes place on Saturday, April 24 — the day before the regular "Secret Gardens of the East Bay" tour kicks off.

The Limited Edition will run from 9 a.m. to approximately 2 p.m.

Tour guests will have the opportunity to talk with garden owners, designers and bonsai specialists and learn the history, philosophy and symbolism behind the outward beauty of an ancient art.

Highlights of the tour include two Orinda gardens established by the late Henry Matsutani, a principal designer of the Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park.

One of the Orinda gardens encompasses 3 1/2 acres and is the site of an original Frank Lloyd Wright house, built in 1948.

The tour also will include the personal garden of noted landscape designer and bonsai teacher Mas Imazumi, and gardens featuring the handiwork of pruning specialist Dennis Makishima.

The event will start at the site of Oakland's Kojin-an Zen Temple with a talk, given by Bill Castellon, on the history and background of Japanese gardens.

Guests on the Limited Edition tour will also enjoy a Japanese gourmet bento box lunch, prepared by Berkeley's O Chame Restaurant, and chartered bus transportation between sites.

The Limited Edition tour is limited to 60 guests. Tickets are \$125 per person. To place reservations, please call the Park Day School Garden Tour Hotline at (510) 653-6250.

How to buy a new home before selling the old

Real Estate Forum

By Dian Hymer

and avoid a move altogether. However, a quick survey of home values in your immediate neighborhood indicated that this would be foolish. You would run the risk of over-improving your home for the area.

You were convinced, however, that you wanted to remain in the same general neighborhood: the commute was convenient, the schools were great and the sense of community felt like home. So you started looking around for a larger home in the neighborhood.

The good news was that the local real estate market had improved dramatically over the past five years. You were confident that you would have no trouble selling your current

home for enough money to make a trade-up move possible.

Unfortunately, you also discovered that the real estate turnaround had affected the market in general. Virtually every well-priced home in the neighborhood was selling quickly, often with multiple offers and for more than the asking price.

This meant that an offer made contingent upon the sale of your current home didn't hold a chance of being accepted.

Intent on making a move, you put in a call to your parents who gladly offered to "gift" you some money for a down payment. The gift money provides the resources you need to go ahead and buy a home without having to sell your starter home first.

Most lenders will allow parents to give money to children for part or all of the down payment. However, the lender will insist that the

parents provide a "gift letter" which states that the money is a gift and that it doesn't have to be repaid.

If gift money will make up a part of your down payment or closing funds, make sure you get preapproved with a lender before you make an offer to buy a home. This is particularly important if you are in competition with other buyers. Sellers feel more confident accepting an offer that requires help from the folks if the parents have already agreed to the arrangement in writing and the lender has approved the buyer's financial package.

Preapproval involves actually applying for the mortgage you'll need to complete the sale. All your supporting financial documentation, including credit reports, verifications of income and employment and the source of funds to close will need to be verified by the lender.

One irksome aspect of the process for many buyers is that lenders require parents to verify that the money is coming from them. If the money is coming from a discount account, the lender will want to see the gift money was actually drawn from this account and approve the loan.

Dian Hymer is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair office and author of "Selling a Home in California: Starting Out, The Complete Buyer's Guide," both from Chronicle Books. Order copies from Chronicle books: (800) 722-2222.

Mortgage rates steady at 6.98 percent

McLEAN, VA — In Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage (FRM) averaged 6.98 percent, with an average 0.9 point, for the week ending April 2, 1999, unchanged from last week's average of 6.98 percent; a year ago the 30-year FRM averaged 7.15 percent.

The rate for 1-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 5.65 percent this week,

with an average 0.9 point, down slightly from last week's average of 5.69 percent. A year ago, the 1-year ARM averaged 5.68 percent.

The average for 15-year FRMs this week was 6.58 percent, with an average 0.9 point, also down from last week's average of 6.61 percent. A year ago, the 15-year FRM averaged 6.79 percent.

Thanks for the feedback

Last week's cover story by Gayle Tantau on community efforts to rehabilitate Berkeley's Oak Park ("Curb Appeal," April 1-2, 1999) continues to draw interest. Again, call (510) 898-9441 to lend a hand.

If you know of efforts to rescue other community spaces from neglect, please write John Snyder at Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland, 94619 or e-mail jsnyder1@cctimes.com.



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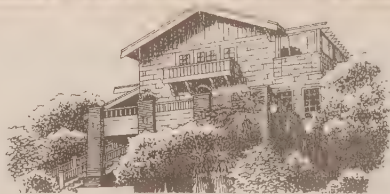
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2 bedrooms + comfortable home office.

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BY APPOINTMENT



236 Scenic Avenue, Piedmont

This grand Upper Piedmont shingle home was built in 1914 with gorgeous redwood and craftsmanship of the era. The interior spaces (17 rooms) include two kitchens, five+ bedrooms, three full baths and a separate legal in-law unit. Every window invites views of the sunny landscaped property (very large double lot) and spectacular SF Bay (4 bridges plus 5 counties) views. The sunny outdoor living has a spacious brick patio and landscaped gardens. Offered: \$795,000

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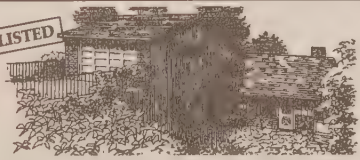
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5968 JOHNSTON DR. • \$485,000

Charming contemporary 3+BD, 3BA, updated kitchen with eating area, living room with fireplace. Large family room leads to refinished deck and huge play yard. Plus room for office/4th bedroom.

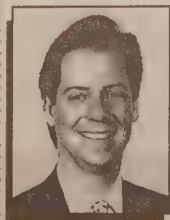
JUST LISTED



2319 WOOLSEY • \$329,000

Berkeley brown shingle duplex. Lower unit: 1BD/1BA w/plus rm. Living room w/fireplace, hwd flrs & built-ins. Upper unit: 2BD/1BA with sunroom. Both baths updated. Upgraded seismic, heat & frpl.

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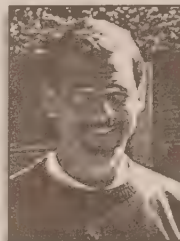
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"Where Do We Go From Here?" A Free Seminar for Senior Homeowners

Saturday, April 17, 1999
East Hills Community Church
12000 Campus Dr., Oakland
REGISTRATION: 12:30
PROGRAM: 1-3 p.m.
CATERED REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

What Can You Expect To Learn:

- How to protect my assets from income and inheritance taxes.
- What is a retirement community vs. a residential care facility
- The trend in residential real estate in Oakland, Piedmont, Berkeley and Alameda

Who Should Attend?

- Seniors who are wanting to know their options for the future
- Family members who have parents looking for the next step

Your Speakers

- Teresa Mann, Attorney, Bell, Rosenburg & Hays
- Bill Keck, Senior Advisor, Senior Living
- Phyllis Sheehey, Real Estate Retirement Consultant
- Dorise Kaplan, The Elder Law, Piedmont & Grand Lake
- Steven & Charlene Clayburn, Montclair Better Homes Realty

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Montclair Better Homes, 1986 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611 • 339-4000

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



950 Rose Avenue, Piedmont

Piedmont Victorian with sunny, level whimsical garden. The great room with fireplace is perfect for casual social gatherings today's life-style. Other features include: a formal dining room, bedrooms and three baths. The convenient location is close to school, playgrounds, Piedmont Avenue and transportation

Offered at \$559,000



190 Estates Drive, Piedmont

Top quality custom home with Bay and hill views throughout a highly desirable location. The level-in entryway leads to grand areas and the well designed floor plan, with exterior steps, is perfect for entertaining. Features include three bedrooms, two master suites, three bathrooms, large living room, dining room, spacious kitchen, large rampus room and secluded side garden.

Offered at \$675,000



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Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

Charitable trust can be a great way to reduce estate taxes

American Red Cross
In the real estate market, Bay Area residents' average net worth is more than ever — thanks to the market, home values, careers and inheritances.

Whether or not you are a millionaire, you could have a hidden tax liability. If your estate is worth more than \$1 million, the tax-free amount of \$650,000 for legally married couples will be taxed at rates that range from 37 percent and go up to 55 percent for people who think they have no tax problem by creating

a living trust are surprised to learn that a living trust does not help reduce estate taxes.

A living trust can help you reduce probate fees, distribute your assets and select a person to manage your assets, but it does very little to ease the tax burden for your heirs.

One of the keys to reducing your estate taxes is to move assets out of your estate.

Pass wealth to loved ones tax-free

You can give \$10,000 a year to any number of people, tax-free. This means that a couple can give \$20,000 a year to each of their children and

other loved ones. In addition to the \$10,000 gifts, during your lifetime, or through your estate, you can pass \$650,000 to your loved ones free from estate or gift taxes. Gifts to charity are always tax-free.

Take advantage of IRS approved tax planning tools

You can decrease estate taxes by moving assets out of your estate and putting them into a charitable trust. A trustee, who you select, can sell the assets and invest the proceeds to produce an annual income for you. Your income from the trust is likely to be much higher than the rental income from the property or the divi-

dends from the stock you originally put in the trust.

For example, a couple put \$200,000 worth of stock into a trust that will pay them 7 percent, about \$14,000 a year for their lifetimes. The stock was only earning about 2 percent in dividends so the trust dramatically increases their income.

As the stock had gone up in value since they purchased it, they would have had to pay capital gains taxes if they sold it. Instead, they can avoid some of the capital gains taxes when the assets are transferred to the trust. In addition, they will get a sizable tax deduction on this year's income tax return.

Placing the assets in the trust is

an irrevocable gift because after their lifetimes, the remaining principal goes to the American Red Cross Bay Area chapter.

According to Jennifer Callahan, C.P.A., an associate director of gift planning at the American Red Cross Bay Area, "a charitable trust is a way for people to leave a lasting legacy to a favorite charity such as the Red Cross. You can put a summer home that isn't being used or low income earning property to good use by helping the Red Cross and yielding new income for yourself."

Besides the tax savings, one of the most important reasons people consider trusts is to support a good

cause. American Red Cross volunteers are always there serving the needs of local disaster victims in the six county region of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Solano. From first aid, CPR, and earthquake preparedness to providing emergency shelter, food and medical services to victims of house fires, floods, and earthquakes, the Red Cross Bay Area Chapter is always there in our community saving lives.

Consult with a tax attorney, an accountant or call the Red Cross at (415) 427-8187 to request a free brochure on charitable trusts.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, April 1 through Friday, April 24

Home repair in April. Skilled volunteers and carpenters, plumbers, get out there. Christmas in April needs help. Homes will be rehabilitated about the month. All volunteers receive a free T-shirt and are invited to a complimentary post-event picnic. Christmas in April is a local charity dedicated to helping disadvantaged elders live comfortably and safely in their own homes. Donations accepted. Call (510) 644-8979.

Monday, April 15

Home seminar. If you're considering selling your home for the first time, "Selling and Additions: What you need to know" can show you how to maximize the value and rewards of your home. Free seminar led by Paul and Deborah Lane, both accomplished experts in remodeling and home. 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Rock-

ridge Library, 5366 College Ave. Call (510) 597-5017.

Thursday, April 9

Women's council. Join the Women's Council of Realtors — East Bay, for a panel of stars from Oakland, Berkeley, and Alameda. They will discuss what makes them successful Realtors. Meet at 11:30 a.m. at H's Lordship's Restaurant, 199 Seawall Dr., Berkeley. Fee is \$20 and reservations are required. Call (510) 482-3800.

Saturday, April 10

Free lectures. "What You Need to Know Before You Build or Remodel," preview of the Homeowner's Essential Course, presented by builder Glen Kitzberger — learn to solder pipe and more! 10 a.m. to noon. "Choosing to Add On: The pros and cons of building an addition," by author and instructor Skip Wenz, noon to 2 p.m. The Building Education Center, 812 Page St., Berkeley.

Wednesday, April 14

Networking. Bay Area National Association of the Remodeling Industry invites contractors, remodel design professionals, retailers, wholesalers and consultants to its monthly networking and meeting at Simpson Strong-Tie Company, Inc., 1450 Doolittle Dr., San Leandro. Cost is \$25. RSVP (415) 675-9776.

Saturday, April 17

Senior planning. "Where do we go from here?" That's the topic at a panel discussion intended to help seniors and their families plan ahead. Topics include sheltering assets, real estate trends and retirement facilities. Event is from 1 to 3 p.m. at East Hills Community Church, 12000 Campus Dr., Oakland. Catered refreshments will be served. Call Libby at (510) 339-8400 or (510) 287-9327 to register.

Saturday, April 17 and Sunday, April 18

Annual show and sale. California Chapter, American Rhododendron Society's annual show and sale of rhododendron and azalea plants. Saturday 1 to 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Both days at Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave. in Oakland.

Thursday, April 22

Plaster master. Artisan Art Guerrero presents "Distinctive Plaster Finishes" 7 p.m. at Builder's Books, 1817 Fourth St., Berkeley. Call (510) 845-6874.

Ongoing

Credit counseling. Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a nonprofit community service organization in Oakland has a series of free workshops. Registration

is mandatory. For more information call (800) 501-5AVE. Discover Oakland's changing skyline, landmarks, churches and high-rises on one of the free guided walking tours sponsored by the city's Community and Economic Development Agency. Call (510) 238-3234.

Sick plant clinic. Join University of California pathologist Dr. Robert Raabe from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month for a free Sick Plant Clinic at the UC Botanical Gardens, 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. Drop in with a piece of a sick or a dying plant and Dr. Raabe will diagnose the problem. Call (510) 643-2755.

Homebuyer seminars. Russell Doi of the Mortgage Network hosts free first

Time Homebuyer Seminars. Learn about the many first-time homebuyer programs available today. Find out just how much home you can afford to buy. Call (510) 526-6554 for reservations.

We accept event announcements on a space-available basis. Fax listings for this section to (510) 339-4066, write 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland 94619 or send e-mail to jnyderl@earthlink.net. Notices must arrive at our offices no later than one week prior to publication date and are subject to editing. Notices are published as a public service; no liability is assumed.

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131 Hazel Lane

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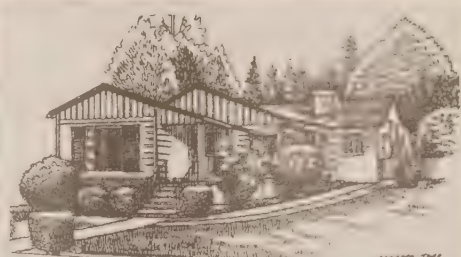
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NEW LISTING IN REDWOOD HEIGHTS OPEN SUNDAY • April 11 • 2-4:30 p.m.



4206 DUNSMUIR AVENUE

New on the market! Charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath traditional with fireplace in living room, formal dining room, hardwood floors, central courtyard, detached garage and nice yard

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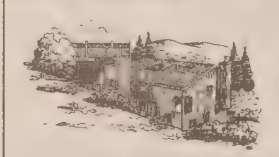
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FIRST OPEN



646 Caldwell Rd., Montclair \$439,000
Custom 3BD/3BA home built in 1993, large level yard, family room, potential 4th bedroom. Nancy Moore

FIRST OPEN



6125 Skyline Blvd., Montclair \$439,000
Spacious 3+BD/2+BA contemporary w/whig ceilings, master suite, SF view from new deck. Chuck Corwin

FIRST OPEN



6158 Bullard Dr., Piedmont side/Montclair.. \$355,900
Classic 3BD/2BA contemporary near Village w/dramatic interior, great room, hill views. Donna Costella

FIRST OPEN



6143 Westover Dr., Montclair \$315,000
Warm, unique 2+BD/2+BA contemporary, w/whig LR w/SF Bay view, formal DR, decks. Teri Carlisle

~ Open Sunday 2:00-4:30 ~

255 King Ave., Piedmont - 4+BD/4BA \$1,775,000
Innovative one-level 1950's home w/fair! Light-filled w/flowing floorplan, timeless materials. Nancy Rothman
106 Ross Circle, Rockridge - 5+BD/4.5BA \$1,150,000
Just listed! Rare offering! Stately 1921 traditional on huge lot, SF views, caretaker's cottage. Patricia Scott
572 Golden Gate Ave., Upper Rockridge - 3BD/4+BA \$849,000
Designer's home w/antique of colors & materials, separate guest house/office, spectacular gardens. Michelle Vasey
8917 Norfolk Rd., Claremont Hills - 4BD/3BA \$688,000
New listing! Fabulous new home w/dream kitchen, luxurious master suite, wonderful gardens. David Ichioka

1145 Sunnyside, Crocker Highlands - 3+BD/2.5BA \$619,000
Reduced! Classic Colonial w/sunny family rm, master bedroom w/fireplace, park-like yard. Dick Cohen
646 Caldwell Rd., Montclair - 3BD/3BA \$439,000
New listing! Custom home built in 1993, large level yard, family room, potential 4th bedroom. Nancy Moore
6125 Skyline Blvd., Montclair - 3+BD/2+BA \$439,000
New listing! Spacious contemporary w/whig ceilings, master suite, SF view from new deck. Chuck Corwin
1036 Warfield, Grand Lake - 3BD/3BA \$425,000
New listing! Authentic Spanish-Med. w/private courtyard, rumpus, home office, large yard. Tom Wurst

6158 Bullard Dr., Pied. side of Montclair - 3BD/2BA. \$355,900
New listing! Classic contemporary near Village w/dramatic interior, great room, hill views. Donna Costella
6143 Westover Dr. Montclair - 2+BD/2.5BA \$315,000
New listing! Warm, unique contemporary, stunning LR w/SF Bay view, formal DR, decks. Teri Carlisle
5740 Ayala Ave., Rockridge - 2+BD/1BA \$289,000
New listing! Charming Craftsman w/original detailing, formal DR w/built-ins, level yard. Georgia Cornell
4206 Dunsmuir Ave., Redwood Hts. - 3BD/2BA \$274,500
New listing! Charming traditional w/formal dining room, hardwood floors, great street. Diane Earl McCann

260 Caldecott Lane, #310, Oakland - 2BD/2BA \$238,000
Reduced! Lovely upgraded Camel model, top floor, 2 master suites, fireplace, 2-car garage. Joanna Gould
2433 Rampart St., Oakland - 2BD/1BA \$225,000
New listing! Charming cottage w/wrap-around deck, updated kitchen & bath, yard. Ann Nichols
915 63rd St. Oakland - 3BD/1.5BA \$199,500
First open! Spacious Victorian charmer w/g. back yard, formal DR w/fireplace, library. Joanna Gould
4368 Bennett Pl., Redwood Hts. - 1BD/1BA \$154,000
Charming cottage w/maximum privacy, clean & neat, great neighborhood. Diane Earl McCann

~ By Appointment ~

PEDMONT ESTATE \$2,495,000
A home for generations! Gorgeous 6bd/6+ba home on 34 acre grounds w/ lawns & gardens. Helen Danhald
Piedmont \$1,350,000
New listing! Charming English-style on sought-after street, 6BD/4.5BA, family room, lg. yard. Dee Knowland

CLAREMONT HILLS \$895,000
Work w/designer to choose your own finishes in this new construction w/great Bay views. David Ichioka
RIDGEMONT \$469,000
Pristine 3+BD/2+BA home w/spacious sunroom, kitchen/FR, gracious mstr. suite, 3-car garage. Robyn Mohr

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$389,500
Spacious, secluded all-level home on approx. 1/2 acre, 4BD/2BA, family rm, off kitchen. Diane Earl McCann
BEXLEY \$239,000
Charming, updated 3BD/2BA brown shingle bungalow w/yard & deck near 4th St. Donna DeBardi

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No. 277 in a series of true experiences in real estate

Owning is different from renting. While you may take pride in your place when you are renting, you probably won't do much to the basic structure because it doesn't belong to you.

I've lived in rentals. I painted and cleaned and gardened.

When I painted, I wiped up the splatters from the floor, removed and put back the light plate covers, but I didn't begin by carefully sanding the woodwork. It wasn't my woodwork.

In one apartment I changed the kitchen cupboard handles to great effect, but I couldn't see any reason to buy brass ones. Red plastic was fine.

Yes, I gardened. I weeded and dug and planted - but no trees. Inexpensive bedding plants and seed were what I put in. Because it was temporary, I always knew I'd be moving on.

Then I bought my own house. Suddenly my eyesight improved, my standards went up, and everything got a lot more expensive. Ninety-nine cent handles would not do. I bought the five-dollar ones. Now that the woodwork was mine, I scraped and sanded before I applied primer, and then the paint. And I bought trees in five-gallon containers.

I guess it's like kids. When they

True Experiences

By Tarpoff and Talbert

are someone else's, that's their problem. When they're yours, you have to pay attention.

I read the other day that raising a child to age 18 costs around \$250,000. On average, of course. No doubt many parents spend more; some kids get by on less. How much do people spend on their houses, I wonder.

Maybe you intend to buy a house that doesn't need anything. "Move-in ready," agents say. So it isn't your plan to fix up your house. You don't know how, you don't have time - it's not your thing. But there's a problem. Houses are made of lots of parts. You may not have thought much about it, but the parts wear out, become outdated, need care.

Keeping your house together takes time, thought and money. Maybe you've never caulked anything in your life. You recognize cracks in plaster but you have no idea what to do about them - or even if something needs to be done. Electricity is just plain scary, and plumbing beyond the pale.

Wait - you do know some things. You know that something must be done when water is coming in through the ceiling or when you no

longer have heat. When it's your house, you can't call the landlord. You'll either have to learn very fast how to fix these things yourself or you'll have to hire someone.

In an emergency, you go to the Yellow Pages and start calling. You reach, of course, an answering machine. Getting something fixed by someone else involves identifying a problem, locating a potential fixer person, calling, connecting, describing, and then meeting the person - usually during the week when you would otherwise be working.

This all happens before you pay money to the person you hired, a person who sometimes knows what he is doing, but sometimes not.

Okay, so you're going to do it yourself. You probably won't put on a new roof yourself, but you can certainly paint the living room. You gather your supplies: paint and roller, sandpaper and a ladder. (You forgot you'll need a ladder?)

Standing now in your living room, you realize that you'll need to do some patching. Back to the store you go, this time for masking tape and paper, spackle and knife.

Everything goes along fine until you realize how long it is going to take to sand all of the woodwork. An electric sander would be a big help. And, because you want to do a good job, you'll need to remove the switch covers, the light fixture, door and window hardware. An electric screwdriver is in your future. Maybe a window scraper, too, and probably other handy items you will happen to see at the hardware store.

Note that your plan was a simple one. You are not taking down walls. But you do think that the overhead light fixture in the living room could be more attractive. The door hardware doesn't match; it should be changed. And, while the floor will look better when it is waxed and polished, refinishing it would be a vast improvement.

See how it snowballs?

Probably you have heard your car mechanic say, "We're going to pull the engine to fix the what-not, so we might as well replace a bunch of these other parts, too." It's like that with houses. Somehow the smallest, simplest project becomes bigger and broader.

The inspector who looked at your house before you bought it cautioned you about water. Water from down spouts, from leaking faucets and toilets, around the bathtub. Water, terrible water, standing on your redwood deck. Part of home ownership is being responsible for such things as the quick, whisking-away of water.

Other common maintenance tasks include caulking tubs and sinks,

draining the hot water heater, cleaning furnace filters, cleaning gutters, pruning trees, and sealing decks and porches.

This isn't meant to scare you. You will likely find, as I have, that owning and expensive house means there are rewards to owning.

For example, it's true that you call the landlord to replace a water heater, but the flip side is that if it fails, for a little more money you can get one with a 50-gallon tank.

Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoff are licensed agents and are also who also offer hourly consulting and coaching. They can be reached at (510) 653-6838.

NEW MONTCLAIR LISTING OPEN SUNDAY • APRIL 11 • 2-5



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Montclair schools. Bright roomy home in wooded setting. 4BR, 3BA, FDR, fam rm, eat-in kitchen, workshop, decks, patio. **Ruth Lockhart**



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JUST LISTED! Beautiful sunsets from deck! 3BR, 2BA, + study. Fabulous new gourmet kit w/ skylights. Grt floor plan, wonderful setting. Walk to Tilden Park.



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5987 Rincon.....5BR/3.5BA.....\$479,000.....Adriana Giacomelli
191-404th Street Way.....3BR/2BA.....\$273,000.....Ruby Ng/Karen Lum
218 Duncan Way.....2BR/1BA.....\$270,000.....Marilyn Bremser

BY APPOINTMENT

ROCKRIDGE NEW!.....\$849,950
Spacious grounds, lawn, play area, front courtyard, 3-car gar & big sunny rooms. A gourmet kit, 4+BR, 3+BA. **Ruth Lockhart**

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1912 Crocker Craftsman. 3+BR, 2+BA, 2 fireplaces. Beautiful built-ins, beam ceilings. Brick courtyard, terraced yard. Conveniently located. **Ruby Ng/Karen Lum**

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This spacious 12-yr-old Montclair home has a canyon view from the tree tops. Perfect home office set-up. **Michael Thompson**

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Charming home with formal LR & FDR, gumwood, built-ins, hwd floors and more. "As is" and trust sale. 2BD/1BA. **Dell Orr**

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3136 BIRDSALL.....\$244,500
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986 CRAGMONT.....\$449,000
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762 CRESTON.....\$375,000
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IN THE BERKELEY HILLS.....\$625,000
Gracious Tudor, beautifully remodeled with Bay views! 4BD/3.5BA, includes huge master suite w/jet spa. Lovely formal dining room with glass doors to deck, plus updated, tiled kitchen & sunny breakfast room. A must see!

BERKELEY MEDITERRANEAN WITH
SPECTACULAR BAY VIEWS.....\$449,000
Spacious 3 level Med. in the Berkeley hills. 5BR/2.5BA, with lots of flexibility. Downstairs Rec room, office, au pair? Nice sized back yard. Foundation and seismic work done.

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CONTEMPORARY.....\$395,000
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MEDITERRANEAN LAKESHORE
4-PLEX.....\$375,000
Handsome 4-plex in popular neighborhood, a few blocks to the Grand Lake Theater. 2BR, 2BA w/2nd floor 3 charming studios & 3 garages. Walk to shopping, restaurants & transportation.

TAHOE STYLE BERKELEY
TOWNHOME.....\$289,000
Spacious 3BR/2+BA townhome on 2 levels, only a short walk to the Gourmet Ghetto. Vaulted ceiling, wood stove, & large sun-filled eat-in kitchen. Also new paint & carpets.

PERFECT GOLDEN GATE VIEW
FROM EL CERRITO.....\$339,000
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SUNFILLED ELMWOOD END UNIT.....\$339,000
Unique 2BR/2BA condo in the heart of Elmwood. Serene garden w/rose garden side, the other side is a lush garden that opens large, private deck, perfect for entertaining or just relaxing. Walk to College Ave.

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BERKELEY BUNGALOW.....\$339,000
JUST LISTED! Beautifully remodeled kitchen! Hardwood floors, fireplace, built-ins and tile front porch. 2 bedrooms. Lovely yard with new deck. Walk to shopping and transportation.

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Santa's helpers?



JOANNA JHANA
JEAN (left) and Berkeley Chief of Police Dash Butler (right) help
the first coat of paint for the home of Berkeley resident Mucilee
(not pictured).

Wish list tackles need

Sunday, April 24th, is the big day. More than 1,500 volunteers will be at sites in Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, and it is not too late

Local action is in addition to hundreds of Christmas in chapters nationwide that will force this weekend. Homes income elderly and disabled as well as several communers, will be repaired. All free to the owners. Supplies are all donated.

Volunteers needed

Carpet or linoleum installers, roofers, HVAC contractors, carpenters, plumbers, plasterers.

Supplies needed

Refrigerators, washing machines, oven/ranges, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, lumber, rakes, shovels, hoes and cash, cash, cash.

All contributions are tax-deductible. Please call (510) 644-8980 and make this the best Christmas some folks will ever have.

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646 CALDWELL ROAD

Move in and enjoy this bright custom home built in 1993 with its exceptionally lovely landscaped and level back yard. Both the master suite and living room open to the patio for the best of indoor/outdoor living. Three bedrooms and 3 baths plus space for expansion, too!

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Nancy Moore
Senior Sales Associate
(510) 339-6460 ext. 302

PACIFIC UNION

Tips show how to set up your home office

You're past the point of using your kitchen table for writing that business report. You've invested in a computer, printer and other office essentials and now you need a permanent place to put them. The experts at Galvins Home & Furniture offer the following tips and consideration to keep in mind when setting up your home office:

Claim your space

If you can, designate a permanent space devoted exclusively to your home office — a separate room is ideal. Or, at least consider a bookcase as a divider wall to separate your work life from family activity. This will help minimize the daily distractions that can decrease your productivity.

Home office measurement

Measure the space you expect to use for your home — office from wall to wall, floor to ceiling. Locate the placement of windows, doors, electric outlets, radiators and any exceptionally intrusive baseboards.

Equipment needs

Make a list of the equipment you have or plan to add: computer with modem, phone, answering machine, fax, copier, scanner, TV monitor, speakers, computer gaming attachments, laptop docking station.

User list

Identify everyone — including kids — who will use all or part of the space, and for what. Computer work,

art projects and meetings all require a different amount of work surface. Determine if you need to interact with other users or if you prefer divided work areas.

Future planning

Think beyond the present and envision what you will need your home office to do in the future. Consider versatile furnishings and layouts that allow for future expansion, such as modular furniture systems. For example, a basic work surface layout

that fits your space can be enhanced later with the addition of lower storage cabinets, files and hutchers.

Picking the right dealer

Check the Yellow Pages and the Internet locally under "office furniture" and pick dealers who advertise home offices. At each dealer, talk with a designer who can translate your measurements into a floor plan, understand the functions of your

See OFFICE, Page B10

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



5642 Amy Drive, Upper Rockridge

Move right in and enjoy this exceptionally desirable neighborhood. This Rockridge home enjoys a bountiful garden complete with vegetables, orchids and fruit trees. Other features include: two complete kitchens, a cozy family room, three sunny bedrooms and two full baths. Offered at \$499,000



Anian Pettit Tunney, CRS
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Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

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935 Longridge Road, Crocker Highlands

This dramatic and spacious four bedroom, three bath Crocker Highlands home is highlighted by soaring vaulted ceilings and random plank floors. Enjoy the spacious living room, beautiful updated eat-in kitchen with granite counter tops, inviting family room, loft, two fireplaces, sunny deck and patio garden.

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We've Got It! The Northbrae Fixer Everyone Asks Us For...

Walk to Hopkins Street shops & restaurants from this 2BD home. Craftsman details, including a fireplace flanked by bookshelves, built-ins in the dining room, an eat-in kitchen and more. Large, sunny backyard. There's work to be done here, but with just a touch of imagination it's easy to envision an adorable Berkeley home in a great neighborhood. Offered at \$195,000 "as is"

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LOVELY MEDITERRANEAN \$389,000
Bay views, beamed ceilings, large family room, 3+BR, 2.5BA,
terraced yard & deck. All in a great Oakmore neighborhood!
1924 Hoover Ave NONI ROBINSON 339-8400



BAY VIEW! A-1 CONDITION \$365,000
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All dressed up and waiting. View, yard, 3BR, 1.5BA, plank floors,
rumpus rm, 2 FP's, fenced rear yard & wonderful patio for enter-
taining. 1926 Clemens Rd. NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

FRANCISCO - DIAMOND HEIGHTS \$465,000
Spacious home, 4BR, 3BA, eat-in kitchen, partial view,
newly painted inside/out. Close to transportation.
Torrey Way. TORILL HARGE 287-8862

ABSOLUTELY CHARMING CRAFTSMAN \$195,000
New on market. Box beams, hardwood floors, older country
kitchen, laundry room, 2BR, 1BA, formal dining room. A must
see! 3735 Midvale Ave. MARIA SINCLAIR 287-9596

Shown By Appointment

ABOVE IT ALL! \$1,075,000
This sprawling westside Danville home nestled on a 1.81 tree
studded acre on Montclair Ridge with views all the way to the
Carquinez Straits! Remodeled interior in a combination of sophis-
tication & charm. 4BD/4BA plus a bonus room.
LIZ EASTWOOD (925) 837-2200

WOW! NEW ON THE MARKET! \$969,000
Exceptional one year new Blackhawk home with marble entry,
5BR, 3.5BA, formal dining rm, center island cooktop in light maple
kitchen, large fam rm w/fireplace connecting to sunrm. Gorgeous
pool with waterfall & spa. ALBERT OLSEN (925) 837-2200

NEW SINGLE STORY CUSTOM HOME! \$795,000
Nested among mature trees on this flat 1 1/2 acre is this
beautiful 4BR, plus den home. High ceilings! Very elegant!
CAROLYN HASTINGS (925) 837-2200

NEW TO THE MARKET! \$575,000
This charming 4BR, 2.5BA Danville home is located in a lovely
Westside neighborhood, a "hop-skip" to downtown. You'll love the
remodeled gourmet kitchen and spectacular backyard! A swim-
ming pool too! A must see! LIZ EASTWOOD (925) 837-2200

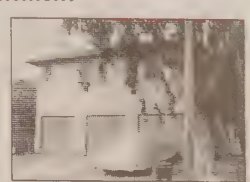
GREEN BROOK BEAUTY! \$429,000
Large Danville single story with 4BR, 2BA, 3-car garage, large
family room with fireplace, very spacious living room, bedrooms &
breakfast area. Located a half block to community pool & tennis
courts. NORM STANLEY (925) 837-2200

HURRY, WON'T LAST LONG... \$379,000
...this spacious split level 4BR, 2.5BA home has a nice view of the
South Bay. 2 FP's - one in LR & FR. Eat-in kitchen, formal dining, wet
bar in family rm. Great potential! ROSEMARY GREENE 287-9599

TWO GREAT TRI-PLEXES! \$225,000 / \$260,000
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DETAILS OF Bernard Maybeck's masterpiece, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Berkeley.

Bay Area rich with Maybeck's legacy

The Maybeck Foundation

Frank Lloyd Wright's name is attached to no fewer than three preservation organizations. In part that is because many hundreds of Wright's buildings survive.

What survives of Bernard Maybeck's work? Most imagine that there are 30 to 50 buildings, mostly houses. According to the chronology of projects in Sally Woodbridge's "Bernard Maybeck, Visionary Architect", more than 100 buildings survive.

More than 80 percent of these are residential buildings. The chronology, originally organized by Kenneth Cardwell, is based on visits to sites and records in the College of Environmental Design Documents Collection at the University of California, Berkeley.

What is the make-up of the surviving legacy? The following analysis was executed with the database program FileMaker Pro. The Woodbridge chronology was made into an electronic file on the Foundation's computer.

Each surviving commission, per Woodbridge, is included. We are uncertain about the status of some entries. For that reason, and because of the inexact terminology required of a thumbnail sketch, these numbers are useful but not definitive.

By building type

Of 106 surviving projects, 84 are residential structures. Of these, 75 are full-fledged residences.

Five clubs remain: Berkeley's Town and Gown club through the Sierra Club's Parsons Memorial Lodge. Educational projects number three, not including the Mills College

Plan which did not materialize. This includes Principia College in Illinois as a single commission, although Maybeck designed numerous structures there (attribution of the Principia buildings has recently been clarified).

Maybeck designed and built five religious buildings: two for Bay Area Unitarians (one was demolished) and three for Christian Scientists: two in Berkeley, one at Principia College.

Of the remaining 10 projects are many of Maybeck's highest profile works: The Palace of Fine Arts (1915); the Packard showroom on Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco (1926); the Hearst Gymnasium (1925); Rose Walk (1912).

There also are some interesting surprises: the Mobilized Women of Berkeley (1937) and his planning work for Brookings, Oregon.

By location

With some major exceptions, Maybeck was a Bay Area practitioner. Three commissions outside California are listed: Elston house in Aberdeen, Washington and the Brookings, Oregon plan. The last is the Principia College campus work in southern Illinois, Maybeck's most remote commission and by far his largest.

Of the remaining 103 projects, 89 are in the Bay Area.

Berkeley claims about half of Maybeck's surviving work. It has 48 structures; 38 of those are residential.

San Francisco has 15 surviving projects, Oakland/Piedmont, seven. Marin county has six surviving Maybeck buildings.

Of those 14 outside the Bay Area, five are in Southern California (including the Earle C. Anthony homes)

and nine are in Northern California (including several in the Monterey area).

The surviving works reflect the trend in Maybeck's actual workload; in his late thirties and his forties his practice thrived and peaked, yet it was substantial through his sixties.

Are you interested in the work of the Maybeck Foundation? Join a growing number of members, volunteers, donors and officers. For a free brochure on the Foundation and its work, please e-mail us at mail@maybeck.org or leave your name, address and telephone number at (510) 466-5401.

BPOA seeks closer ties with Cal

Owners Association says vacancy decontrol hurt students

From the Top

Robert Cabrera

Editor's note: This opinion piece first ran in the March Berkeley Property Owners Association newsletter. We are publishing it here in an ongoing series of perspectives on area housing. Other viewpoints are welcome and should be directed to John Snyder at Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland, 94619, or jsnyder1@earthlink.net.

nature of their tenure.

This relationship, however, is in peril due to the potential for skyrocketing rents at semester's end, forced up by the limited supply of available housing.

We maintain that 20 years of bad housing policies have reduced Berkeley's rental housing stock; punitive rent control, down zoning, and neighborhood protection ordinances have all taken their toll on rental housing.

An additional threat to student housing is posed by the vibrant Bay Area economy, which pits students against highly paid professionals who can afford higher rents.

Not only do we need more housing in general, we also need more student housing in particular. Students and landlords in this vacancy decontrol environment are natural allies. They both need new housing built.

Students need it for obvious reasons, and landlords need it desperately as a political hedge against the charge of "gouging," which has traditionally led to bad publicity in the media, which in turn fuels demand for regulation.

The Berkeley Property Owners Association and student groups are working on strategies to make proposals for constructing more housing, particularly in the downtown campus.

But Berkeley's homeown community is vociferous in its resistance to increased density. It is only attending City Council and board meetings and stating the obvious benefits of reduced crime and pollution from student renters, that we can make a difference and get more rental built in the Downtown Campus.

We have an important request: Cal's Becky White, director of faculty and community housing, White, one of the speakers at our March meeting, views on student housing. We promised BPOA to serve as a contact in our effort to strengthen ties between owners and the academic community.

Robert Cabrera is president of Berkeley Property Owners Association. He can be reached at 848-1131.



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\$133,000 6472-74 HUR. Two townhouse units. Both units are 2 bdrms. Close to Mills College. Kathy Hirsch 814-4706
\$145,000 375 JAYNE AVE. #203. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo near Lake Merritt! Formal living & dining room, fireplace, security building & 1 garage parking space. Don Gutierrez 814-4854
\$169,000 2110 BAXTER ST. Single level bungalow with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, in cul-de-sac location! Great starter home, many windows, finished basement and off street parking. To be sold "As Is" Martha Turner 814-4828
\$184,000 3148 MAXWELL AVE. Lovely single level cottage. 3 bdrms, freshly painted and in full basement for second bathroom. Terry Lee 521-3352
\$235,000 2467 HIGHLAND AVE. Corner grocery store with 2+ bedrooms, 1 bath in owner's unit upstairs. Lois Vickland 814-4819
\$349,000 4325 MOUNTAIN VIEW. Single level 3 bedroom 3 bath home in a park like setting! This home has formal dining room, extra large kitchen, or in-law unit, green house, and remodeled hardwood floors. Room for expansion! Shirley Ellis 522-5545
\$399,000 1431 TRESTLE GLEN RD. Beautiful Crocker Highlands home with 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, formal dining room and two car garage. Christopher Sule with long driveway. Fred Dierksen 814-4811
San Leandro
\$112,000 16343 SARATOGA ST. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, large lot, close to shopping and schools. Call for info! Grand 814-4713
\$199,900 3662 ANZA WAY. Spacious 3 bdrms, 2 baths, new paint, new carpet, new kitchen and large rear yard. Russ Grant 814-4713
\$210,000 14234 OUTRIGGER DR. 3 bdrms, 2 1/2 baths, two car garage, community pool, spa, tennis. Terry Lee 814-4840
\$230,000 14415 SEAGATE DR. 3 bdrms, 2 1/2 baths, very bright, immaculate condition, very bright, fountains and streams. Call for info! Terry Lee 814-4840
\$298,000 2520 BENEDICT DR. Neighborhood with 3 bdrms, 2 baths, kitchen, plus room or kitchen, room with fireplace and 2-car garage. Martha Turner 814-4828
\$399,000 2065 ORION CT. Home in old Upgrades! 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fireplace and hardwood floors. Swirl in master bath, granite, tile and oversized lot! Jean Powers 814-4829
Pittsburg
\$175,000 2216 ROME CT. Lovely 2 bath home with view of Bay Area hills! Single level Cul-de-sac, new roof, gutters, landscaping, call for info! Two car attached garage. Kathy Hirsch 814-4708
Orinda
\$587,000 10 CRESTA BLanca. Charm, custom built in 1950's, 4 bdrms, family room, two fireplaces, master bath! Three bedrooms, gourmet kitchen with all new appliances and double car garage. 814-4829

Buying that first home might be easier than you think

Careful preparation, a dedicated professional can make all the difference

By Brian Williamson

Many first-time home buyers wait months or even years before pursuing their dream of home ownership, often because they are intimidated by the process or fear that the process will be too difficult or even impossible. With the help of a qualified real estate professional, you may find that buying your first home is easier than you think. These tips can turn that dream house into your house.

Check your own credit

Consumers have the right to request a credit report on themselves at a small fee. When you check your credit with a major credit reporting agency, review it for accuracy. Request corrections to any discrepancies to creditors.

If you have serious problems, try obtaining a non-profit credit counseling service in your area to determine how to "repair" your credit.

Many loan programs, your payment history and your current income and assets will be the factors considered in your loan decision.

Know yourself what price you can afford

While it is possible to purchase a home with little or no down payment, there may be advantages to using a conventional down-payment of up to 25 percent of the total purchase price. Let's say you have checked every possible source and

found \$35,000 with which to make your initial purchase. On a \$300,000 home, you may have closing costs around \$5,000. This means you will have \$30,000 left with which to make a down payment and that you will need to borrow \$270,000.

If you are unable to make a sizable down payment, this will change your options for financing somewhat and may reduce the price range for which you might qualify, but programs do exist to make your home a reality.

First-time buyer programs and lower down payments are but two examples.

Pre-qualify to determine how much you can borrow

Many first-time buyers make the mistake of picking a home they want to purchase first and then trying to arrange financing later. While this seems like a logical approach, the system works better the other way around.

Before you shop for a home, you should make an appointment with a loan agent representing a single lender or a mortgage broker that can lead you to any of several lenders. Your lender will "pre-qualify" you for a purchase.

The pre-qualification letter from your lender will tell you what price range you can afford based on the down payment you can make. This let-

ter will also be needed for any offers you wish to make in today's market, so have the pre-qualification procedure done early. Later on in the process you can shop for a loan the way you would for a car or any other major purchase by comparing value. But for now, your pre-qualification will help you and your real estate agent find the home that is right for you in a value range that you can afford.

Select a professional

As a first-time buyer (or any buyer) you'll want to work with a qualified real estate professional willing to help you find the home you want at a price within your budget.

Ask questions

Talk with potential real estate agents by asking questions about their company and what they are willing to do to help you make your purchase. Find out to whom your real estate professional owes allegiance — you or the seller. This information is available on the agency disclosure form, which should be one of the first forms you encounter. What tools does the agent and company have available to find a home

that is right for you?

Make it clear that you want to be kept informed of all steps in the process and to be alerted if any problems arise. Any true professional in real estate will work for you, helping you to make informed decisions along the way.

Establish rapport

Above all, choose a competent real estate professional whom you trust. Establishing rapport with your agent from the beginning will make the entire process go more smoothly.

Develop your wish list

Homes are almost as varied as people. They come in all sizes, shapes and colors. You should develop a personalized wish list to share with your agent.

Some of your most important considerations will be price, location, size, floor plan, style, amenities and overall condition. How many bedrooms do you want? How important is curb appeal?

Your real estate professional should be able to help you develop this list and rank the importance of all factors according to your needs

and desires.

Make sure you think about future needs while being realistic about what you can afford.

Keep score

You can turn your wish list into a score sheet by assigning a point value to each of your criteria. As you view homes that seem to meet your major criteria such as location, price and size, keep track of the individual scores for each of your criteria. Then total these individual scores to find an overall score for each home viewed.

In the end, your final decision may be more subjective, but these scores will help you to keep a variety of factors in mind based on the importance they have for you.

Make them an offer you can't refuse. After you have seen a variety of homes that meet your major requirements, you should be prepared to act.

Choose wisely

Have you evaluated the neighborhood, schools or other community benefits? What prices have been received for similar homes in the area? Is the home realistically situated for commuting, shopping and other needs?

If you are satisfied that you would be happy in the home, work with your real estate professional to make an offer. Don't let the fact that other offers have been received deter you. Buying a home that is in demand is a good sign for long-term value.

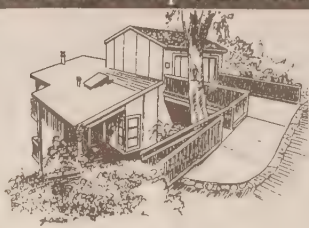
When you make an offer, be realistic and work within both your price range and that of the seller. You are in control. Ask for what you want by setting your own terms and making an offer that you can't refuse. If a counter offer is made, evaluate it carefully before accepting. Pay attention to details and ask your real estate professional to explain anything you don't understand.

Shop for the best financing

Many government and financial

See FIRST-TIME, Page B10

OPEN SUNDAY • April 11 • 2:00 - 5:00



6158 Bullard Dr.

Piedmont Side of Montclair

This classic contemporary features dramatic floor to ceiling glass and views of the hills!

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WORTH A DEAL.....\$249,500
2BR, approx. 1368 sq. ft., Updated kitchen & baths. Dual pane windows, large family room. Lots of storage in basement, garage.

#906597 Paul Triplett 510-335-9640

CERRITO HOME WITH A VIEW/New Listing.....\$249,950

3BR, 2048 Junction. Conveniently located in the lower hills

area, just a short walk to Del Norte Bart. Hardwood floor modern

kitchen, great yard and patio. Magary Abbass 510-222-8870 ext. 236

CUSTOM RANCH BEAUTY.....\$339,500

2BR with potential 4th bedroom. Spacious single level. Tile thru-

out formal dining room, fabulous floor plan, 2 car garage, cute

yard. #99005898 Michele Manzone 510-222-2644

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY.....\$339,950

any home, close to all amenities, with 2BR, 1BD both up and

down. Upstairs has new carpet paint and upgraded kitchen/baths.

Unlimited potential, possible rental or "in-law." #906653 Michele Manzone 510-222-2644

RICHMOND ANNEX

WORTH A HOME IN THE ANNEX.....\$112,000

1BR, well cared for home, 1 car attached garage, dining room,

backyard, central heat, fresh paint. #945908 Audrey Siner 510-724-3010

WORTH A HOME.....\$132,500

2BR, 1BA home in Richmond Annex. 902 sq. ft., with large

yard, flat lot, landscape & 5 blocks to BART. Superb opportunity

to own! #99001251 David K. 510-222-9772 ext. 235

RICHMOND VIEW

WORTH A HOME AND PRIVATE.....\$350,000

2BR/2BA Beautiful Tahoe like home nestled in the hills overlooking

Bay. Possible "in-law" set up. Over 1/4 acre lot. #99006940

Byer 510-222-8830 ext. 244

EL SOBRANTE

WORTH A BEAUTY/Price Reduction.....\$207,500

2BR/2BA home on a quiet cul-de-sac. Recently refurbished.

Beautiful private yard. Convenient to shopping and easy freeway

access. #99001362 Magary Abbass 510-222-8870 ext. 236

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1656 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley

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762 Creston Road, Berkeley • \$375,000

Calling all cooks! This charming traditional home sports a fabulous new kitchen with dramatic custom granite counters, a striking vaulted ceiling with motorized skylights, and, of course, top-of-the-line appliances. It has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, separate study and workshop/storage shed. Enjoy beautiful sunsets from the deck and easy access to Tilden Park.

For further information call: HEIDI & JERRY LONG

COLDWELL BANKER

Berkeley Office • 1495 Shattuck Ave. (at Vine)
(510) 835-6218

MARVIN GARDENS REAL ESTATE



Open Sunday 2-5

STUNNING BERKELEY TRADITIONAL.....\$775,000

Enjoy exquisite panoramic views from the large deck and balcony and from every room of this spacious and gracious 5 bedroom home. Beautifully remodeled, large kitchen, lovely dining and living rooms which open to deck, family room, attached garage and deep yard for gardener's playground. Open Sunday 2-5. 976 Oxford St., Berkeley. Diane Mintz 527-2700 x28



Open Sunday 2-4:30

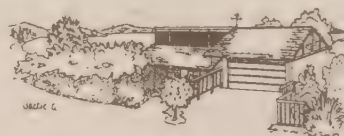
ALBANY NEW LISTING.....\$355,000

Warm and inviting 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home in a serene garden setting. Located in one of Albany's most sought after neighborhoods with lush plantings, detached "writer's retreat", a "garden room", and just a stroll away from Solano Avenue's shops and restaurants.

Open Sun. 2-4:30. 729 Curtis St., Albany. Kathie Berg 527-2700

NEW LISTING.....\$139,000

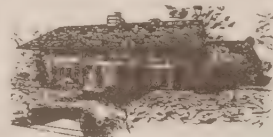
In one of Richmond's nicest neighborhoods. Two bedrooms, one bath, beautifully updated & extended kitchen & bath. Large 5,000 sq. ft. lot. Open Sun. 2-4. 2855 Lincoln, Richmond. Alice McLeish 527-2700 x35



Open Sunday 2-4

SOPHISTICATED BROWN SHINGLE.....\$289,000

Nestled in the El Cerrito Hills this elegant and well maintained two level home has wonderful separation of space for entertaining, work and relaxation. Spacious living room with wood-beamed vaulted ceiling, balcony with City view and private deck with hot tub. 6631 Gatto, El Cerrito. Open Sun 2-4. Mary Gray 527-9111, 559-2939



Open Sunday 2-4

EXPERIENCE THIS WONDERFUL

TRADITIONAL HOME.....\$399,000

With its warm and spacious rooms, French doors out to the deck and garden and the big homey kitchen, this home lets you know that you can relax and creates a comfortable atmosphere. 3br/3ba, den and family room. 6416 Barrett, El Cerrito. Open Sun 2-4. Todd Hodson 527-9111, 559-2915



Open Sunday 2-4

SPECTACULAR GOLDEN GATE VIEW!.....\$265,000

This wonderful, cherished 2br/1.5 ba one owner custom-built home is located on a corner lot in the popular "Fatapple's" neighborhood. Living room with doors to private deck and superb views. 617 Balra, El Cerrito. Open Sun 2-4. Mary Gray 527-9111, 559-2939

IMMACULATE NEW LISTING!.....\$239,900

One-level home in move-in condition features: 3br including a spacious master br with custom closets, a huge master bath with jacuzzi. Wonderful updated country kitchen with eating area. Oversized 2-car garage. Extra large lot-over 6,000 sq. ft. and fully landscaped. 3317 Ahern Court, Richmond/El Sobrante. Open Sun 2-4. Darrell Hoh 527-9111, 559-2905

PINOLE TOWNHOME WITH HILL VIEW!.....\$159,000

Lovely townhome with 2+ bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, formal dining room and fireplace in living room. Private deck, great for entertaining. Two car attached garage. Rosita Thornton 527-9111, 559-2901

1577 SOLANO AVE, BERKELEY • 527-2700

7502 FAIRMOUNT AVE, EL CERRITO • 527-9111

When it's your move...

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



201 Highland Avenue, Piedmont



Filled with light and delightful details, this 1923 Traditional home offers formal living and dining rooms, lovely updated kitchen/family room with French doors to the deck and garden plus 4+ bedrooms, 3.5 baths including perfect au-pair quarters. Close to schools and recreation.

Offered at \$729,000

Nancy Lehrkind

(510) 339-0400 or (510) 653-8092

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



23 Highland Avenue, Piedmont



This Craftsman style home in Central Piedmont was built with quality on a grand scale, with room for a crowd, including a finished attic and rumpus room. Located on a tree-lined street, it has a fenced back garden and a filtered Bay view. Offered at \$875,000

Katherine Cooper

(510) 339-0400 or (510) 652-2265

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



120 Sheridan Road, Oakland



This fabulous Upper Rockridge home is quite unique with soaring ceilings. Five bedrooms, three and one-half baths including two master suites with fireplace. Formal kitchen, formal dining room and wonderful outdoor space. Many plus rooms for home office, Au-pair, workroom or storage. Offered at \$529,000

John Karnay

(510) 339-0400 x 230

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS

YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE OPEN HOMES

OAKLAND ***OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30***

106 ROSS CIR, Rockridge. Just Listed! Rare offering! 1921 trad'l on \$1,150,000 huge lot w/SF vws. 5+4/5. Caretakers cottage. Pacific Union, P. Scott 339-6460

6012 CONTRA COSTA RD, Upr Rckrdge. 4+bd/3+ba. Elegant vw hm. \$950,000 ¼ acre. Guest suite. Lovely garden. Prudential CA, Claire Cunningham 644-5434

50 HILLER DR, Hiller Highlands. Fab 1-level contemp w/smashing \$895,000 bay vws! 5+bd/4+ba. Over 3700 sq. ft. Many extras! Prudential CA Realty 428-0900

5272 GOLDEN GATE AVE, Upr Rockridge. 3bd/4+ba Designer's hm w/ \$849,000 sep guest house/ofc. Fab gardens! Pacific Union, Michelle Vasey 339-6460

5833 ROMANY RD, Elegant 5bd/3+ba bkt in 1947. Rumpus opens to \$790,000 rear yd. Refin. hwdws. NEW LISTING! GRUBB Company, Debra Pruden 339-0400

6032 ACACIA AVE, 4 yr old custom w/French influence. Practical \$749,000 family living merges w/style & elegance. GRUBB Co, Elizabeth Dickson 339-0400

6917 NORFOLK RD, Claremont Hills. Nw Listing. Fab nw 4/3 w/dream \$688,000 kitchen, luxury mstr, wonderful gardens. Pacific Union, David Ichikawa 339-6460

7 BAY FOREST PL, Oakland/Berk Hills. Nw Listing!! Nw 4/3.5 w/SF & \$659,000 Bay vws! FDR, family rm. Quality detail Wells & Bennett, Wendy 531-7000 X237

1056 CLARENDON CRESCENT, Crocker Charm. 5/3. Main level mstr. \$639,000 Hdwds, view, rumpus. Yd/deck/patio. Coldwell Banker, Ellen Lancaster 339-1174

1145 SUNNYHILLS, Crocker. Reduced! 3+bd/2.5ba Classic Colonial w/\$619,000 family rm, mstr w/frpl, park-like yard. Pacific Union, Dick Cohen 339-6460

19 CAPTAINS COVE, Hiller Highlands. 3/2.5 w/fab vws! Gracious hm \$559,000 w/balconies. Huge gar. Bdrms w/skylights. Prudential CA, Ted Norton 428-0900

17 WINDWARD HILL, Hiller. 3+bd/2.5ba w/panoramic bay view & \$540,000 patio. LaSalle Properties, Mary Hanna 339-8900

120 SHERIDAN RD, Nw Listing! Spacious 4bd/3.5b w/soaring ceilings. \$529,000 2 mstr suites w/frpl. FDR. Many plus rms. GRUBB Co, John Karnay 339-0400

40 CAMELLIA PL, Lincoln Hts. 3bd/3ba. Spacious & Elegant. At end \$499,000 of quiet cul-de-sac. Fab large multi-purpose room on lower level. 2800 sq. ft. Coldwell Banker, George Naeger 925-933-7100

5642 AMY DR, Upr Rockridge trad'l. 3bd/2+ba and 2 full kitchens. \$499,000 Cozy family rm w/frpl. Hdwds. Garden. GRUBB Co, Anjan Tunney 339-0400

935 LONGRIDGE RD, NEW LISTING. Spacious contemp w/plank frs. \$495,000 Family rm, 2 frpls. 4bd/3ba. Loft patio & deck. GRUBB Co, James Garcia 339-0400

5968 JOHNSTON, Piedmont side of Montclair. First Time Open! \$485,000 Charming 3+3 contemporary. Prudential CA 339-9290, Gene Boomer 869-4202

5987 RINCON, Spacious 5/3.5 contemp w/flex floor plan. Aupair w/ \$479,000 sep entry. Decks, skylites, vws. Coldwell Banker, Adriana Giacomelli 339-1174

6874 MOORE DR, Montclair. 3+3. Little Red Riding Hood lived here \$475,000 after she married Prince Charming. Prudential CA, Andrew Sussman 845-0200

4305 SAINT CLOUD CT, Ridgemont 4/3 contemporary. Elegant LR w/ \$465,000 frpl, modern EIK. Family rm. Bonus rm. GRUBB Co, Sherry Benninger 339-0400

7237 WILDCURRENT WAY, Montclair. Top of the World! 12 yr old \$465,000 beautiful 4bd/3+ba. Montclair Better Homes 339-4000

5851 CHABOT CT, Rockridge. Fabulous curb appeal. 3bd/2ba. Attic & \$445,000 bsmt, plus yd. Totally filled w/charm! Stephanie, Re/Max 1-800-977-8985

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1-4

6125 SKYLINE BL, Montclair. 3+bd/2+ba. New Listing! Spacious w/ \$439,000 hi ceilings, mstr suite, SF vw from nw deck. Pacific Union, Chuck Corwin 339-6460

646 CALDWELL RD, Montclair. New Listing! 3bd/3ba custom bkt 1933. \$439,000 Family rm, potential 4th bd, lg level yd. Pacific Union, Nancy Moore 339-6460

1036 WARFIELD, Grand Lake. NEW LISTING. 3/3 authentic Spanish \$425,000 Med w/pvt court/yd, rumpus, office, lg yd. Pacific Union, Tom Wurst 339-6460

4128 HARBOR VIEW DR, Stunning 3bd/2b.Nw Listing. A work of art! \$399,000 Patio views! Landscaped garden w/fountain. GRUBB Co, Mavis Delacroix 339-0400

6720 MANOR CREST, Upr Rockridge. 2+1/4 Mediterranean. \$399,000 Hdwds floors, frpl, plus room, lg yard. LaSalle Properties, Jeff Hilgert 339-8900

6180 MORAGA AVE, Montclair. Elegant 3+1/5 Dutch Colonial w/FDR, \$399,000 family rm. Close-in convenience. Wells & Bennett, Joy Bryden 531-7000 X218

1924 HOOVER AVE, Oakmore. 3+bd/2.5ba great Mediterranean. \$389,000 Montclair Better Homes 339-8400

5178 PARKRIDGE DR, Expansive views of nature, ez access to trails. \$389,000 Home office or 4th bdrm. Gorgeous kitchen. GRUBB Co, Bettina Balestrieri 339-0400

7273 SNAKE RD, Montclair. Just Listed! 3bd/2ba w/fabulous views \$379,500 of SF. An entertainer's dream! Alain Pinel RE, Liddy 925-977-3530 SAT & SUN 1-4

4140 ST. ANDREWS, 3bd/1+ba. Peaceful serene setting. Large deck \$375,000 w/views. Prudential CA Realty 834-2010, Demetrius Wilson 869-3740

723 SANTA RAY AVE, Crocker Highlands. Price Reduced! 4bd/1.5 ba. \$369,950 Updtd kit. Park-like yd. Seller Motivated! HMC RE, Luke Oladoga 352-6100 X11 2-5

1925 MANZANITA, Montclair. Enjoy the sunshine & bay vws! 3/2.5. \$369,000 LR w/hdwds, hi ceiling, frpl. EIK. Decks. Wells & Bennett, Stan Hammond 839-5846

11041 ETTRICK, 2bd/3ba. Frank Ogawa Residence. Spacious, \$369,000 elastic floor. Prudential CA 834-2010, John Bell 287-9856 2-5

34 SERENO CIR, Redwood Hts. Pano bay vw. Fab 3+bd/3ba Brown \$365,000 Shingle Townhouse. 2300 sf. Close to all. Montclair Better Homes 339-8400

6158 BULLARD DR, NEW LISTING. Montclair. Classic contemporary. \$355,900 3bd/2ba nr Village. Great room, hill vws. Pacific Union, Donna Costella 339-6460

5716 COLTON, Montclair. New Listing! 3bd/2ba with large yard. \$349,000 Walk to Montclair shops. Art Realty 655-1159

5115-17 MANILA, New in Rockridge! Delightful 2bd bungalow plus \$345,000 rear cottage for extra income. Just listed! Coldwell Banker, Don Coelho 339-1174

4614 REDWOOD RD, Leona Park Villas. 3bd/2+ba Spanish Med twbns. \$345,000 Flagstone patio. Wooded view. Elegant mstr. GRUBB Co, Lani Dy 339-0400

6923 COLTON BL, Montclair. Charming lg cottage w/rare level patio & \$339,000 yd. Hdwds, beamed ceilings, fresh paint. 3/1. Coldwell Banker, Del Orr 339-1174

4008 LA CRESTA AVE, Quality remodel of 3/2 Glenview beauty! FDR, \$329,500 computer rm, hwdvs, retil garage, new front yd. Wells & Bennett, Don 482-2256

1926 CLEMENS RD, Glenview. First Showing. 3bd/1.5ba w/view & \$325,000 yard. Rumpus, 2 frpls. Montclair Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri 531-1670

6143 WESTOVER DR, NEW LISTING. Warm unique contemporary. \$315,000 Montclair. 2+1/2.5 w/SF Bay vw. FDR, decks. Pacific Union, Teri Carlisle 339-6460

308 ELWOOD AVE, Charming 3bd/2ba Craftsman bungalow. EIK. Lvl \$299,000 yd. Beautiful detail! Nr shops/transp. Nw list! GRUBB Co, Melitta Beeson 339-0400

6137 DONCASTER PL, Montclair. 1st Open! 2bd/2ba, charming \$295,000 2-story cottage. LaSalle Properties, Steven Biasatti 339-8900

5740 AYALA AVE, New Listing! Rockridge. Charming 2+1/4 Craftsman. \$289,000 Orig.detail, FDR w/bkt-ins, level yd. Pacific Union, Georgia Cornell 339-6460

7041 HEMLOCK ST, 3bd/1ba lovely Montclair cottage in woody \$285,000 setting w/ a view. Prudential CA, Laurel Strand 339-8301 2-4

4206 DUNSMUIR AVE, Redwood Hts. NEW LISTING. Charming 3/2 \$274,500 trad'l w/FDR, hwdw floors. Great street! Pacific Union, Diane Earl McCan 339-6460

191 40TH STREET WAY, Piedmont Ave. Nw listing. 1916 Craftsman w/ \$273,000 EZ care patio. 3/2. Nr shops, cafes, banks. Coldwell Banker, Ruby/Karen 339-1174

218 DUNCAN WAY, Adorable! Small rustic 2bd cottage on lg lot. \$270,000 New kit & bath. Garden ready to go. Coldwell Banker, Marilyn Bremser 339-1174

3221 SYLVAN AVE, New Listing! Lincoln Hts. 3+1/2 on tree-lined cul- \$259,000 de-sac. Family rm. Deck. Yd. Wells & Bennett, Heidi Tuggle 531-4554

3854 RHODA, Laurel district. Large 3bd/3ba w/new carpet/paint/kit & \$258,900 baths. Plus rms in bsmt. Garage. Prudential CA, Natalie Lynch 834-2010

3136 BIRDSALL, New List! Maxwell Park. 3/2 on lg lot w/curb appeal. \$244,500 FDR, mstr, kit/family rm combo. Workshop. Coldwell Banker, Ruby/Karen 339-1174

260 CALDECOTT LN #310, REDUCED! Lovely upgraded 2/2 "Carmel" \$238,000 model. Top floor. 2 mstrs, frpl. 2-car garage. Pacific Union, Joanna Gould 339-6460

260 CALDECOTT #114, 2bd/1ba \$230,000 Prudential CA Realty, Carol Heath-Kim 527-9800 2-4

2433 RAMPART ST, Charming 2bd/1ba cottage w/wrap-around deck. \$225,000 Updtd kit & bath. Yard. NEW LISTING! Pacific Union, Ann Nichols 339-6460

4124 35TH AVE, Redwood Hts. 2bd/1ba immaculate charmer! Hdwds \$225,000 floors, frpl, deck w/tub. Prudential CA Realty, Janet Kaplan 845-0200

915 63RD ST, FIRST OPEN. Spacious 3bd/1.5ba Victorian charmer w/ \$199,500 lg back yd, FDR w/frpl, library. Pacific Union, Joanna Gould 339-6460

3735 MIDVALE AVE, Diamond district. Nw on Market. 1918 Craftsman. \$195,000 2 1/2 w/hdwds, frpl, box beams, etc. Montclair Better Homes, Maria Sinclair 287-9596

388 SANTA CLARA #102, Grand Lake. 1+bd/1.5ba. Close to lake, \$179,000 shopping & transportation. LaSalle Properties, Tom Erwin 339-8900

300 CALDECOTT LN #205, Parkwoods. 1bd/1ba. Much sought after \$173,000 "Golden Gate" model. LaSalle Properties, Deborah Riney 339-8900

2546 PLEASANT ST, New Listing! Terrific Starter! 4bdrms. 1 bath. \$172,000 Prudential CA Realty 339-9290, Pamela Comford 869-4213

303 ADAMS #206, Adams Point. 2bd/2ba. Vacant, motivated seller. \$157,000 Spacious mstr suite w/adj exercise room. David West 893-9378 X12 2-4

3825 HIGH ST #209, Redwood Heights. 2bd/2ba. Charming \$155,000 Mediterranean condo. Prudential CA Realty, Vikki Landes 339-9290

4368 BENNETT PL, Redwood Heights. Charming 1bd/1ba cottage w/ \$154,000 maximum privacy. Clean & neat. Grt ngrbrhd. Pacific Union, Diane McCan 339-6460

3173 MONTICELLO AVE, Maxwell Park. 2bd/1ba w/maxi view! Hdwds \$152,500 floors, frpl, yd, garage. "AS IS". Prudential CA Realty, Greg Schofield 845-0200

3355 MacARTHUR BL, Laurel. 2bd/1ba delightful bungalow. Move in! \$120,000 Hdwds, orig.detail, hill vw, patio. EZ SF commute. Prudential CA, Roxanne 845-0200

274 MATHER ST #1, Piedmont Ave. Just listed! 1bd condo in 4-unit \$119,000 bldg. Hdwds, frpl, fresh paint. Wells & Bennett, Chris Christensen 531-7000 X242

ALAMEDA ***OPEN SUNDAY***

555 CENTRAL AVE, West End. 5bd/3ba Victorian main house plus \$380,000 residential income. Prudential CA 337-8670, Francesca Thorn 869-4704 2-4

130 WEBER ST, 3bd/2ba. One level. On the Edge of Alameda \$349,000 Gold Coast. Homes-Link, Gadsby 748-5300 2-4:30

1224 HIGH ST, East End. 2/1.5. High basement Craftsman home on \$299,000 corner of High & Madison. Family room. Homes-Link, John 748-5300 2-4:30

ALBANY ***OPEN SUNDAY***

729 CURTIS ST, Warm, inviting 3/1 1/2 in garden setting. Det'd writers \$355,000 retreat, gdn rm.Stroll to Solano Av! Marvin Gardens, Kathie Berg 527-2700 2-4:30

1083 PERALTA AVE, Unusual Mediterranean charm in friendly Albany. \$325,000 2 bdrms. Comfortable hm office. Thornwall Prop., Kathryn Hill 848-1950 X242 2-4

BERKELEY ***OPEN SUNDAY***

20 PERTH PL, Spectacular & private. 4/4 w/gorgeous vws. Custom. \$935,000 In-law, elevator, storage! Templeton Co, Anne Van Dyke 652-2133 X137 2-4:30

226 HILLCREST, Claremont. Great Location, Light, & Space! 4/3.5. \$850,000 Family rm, office, luxury mstr. Lg yd. Templeton, Bebe McRae 652-2133 X145 2-4

976 OXFORD ST, 1000 Oaks. Stunning 5bd trad'l. Beautiful remodel. \$775,000 Family rm. Lg kitchen. 2+ ba. Att'd gar. Huge yd. Pano vws from deck & balcony! Marvin Gardens, Diane Mintz 527-2700 X28 2-5

758 SPRUCE, Berkeley. 4 bedrooms. 3 1/2 baths. \$625,000 Coldwell Banker, Candace Hyde-Wang 486-1495 2-4

1864 SAN RAMON, New listing! 4+3 beautifully remodeled. Stunning \$595,000 kit/family rm combo. FDR, gracious mstr bdrm suite, office, lg deck, storage. Lush landscaping & more! Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X109 2-4

55 HILL ROAD, 3 bedrooms. 2 baths. \$539,000 Coldwell Banker, Kim Marienthal 486-1495 2-4

986 CRAGMONT, 5bd/2ba. Mediterranean w/spectacular Bay vws! \$449,000 Coldwell Banker, Cheryl Cahn 486-1495 2-4

2705 VIRGINIA, New Listing! Fab No.Berk. triplex. 1+1/1, 1+1/1, & 2+1/1. Bay views. Craftsman detailing. Historic neighborhood. "AS IS". \$399,000 Templeton Company, Susie Schevill 652-2133 X144 2-4:30

2415 5TH ST, Fab live/work in trendy multi-use ngrbrhd. Upper unit \$376,000 of 1898 Victorian, plus ground level workspace & elegant private garden. A rare treasure! Templeton Company, Tricia Swift 652-2133 X140 2-4:30

762 CRESTON, 3+bd/2ba in idyllic hills setting. \$375,000 Coldwell Banker, The Longs 486-1495 2-4

169 AVENIDA DR, New Listing! Romantic Hideaway nestled in the \$800 Berkeley Hills. 3bdrms. 1.5 baths. Ideal Home Office. Bay View. Decks. Quiet & Secluded. OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 2-5 841-1428

1330 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WAY, Home plus income in the \$320 Heart of Berkeley. Coldwell Banker, Chris Cohn 486-1495 2-4

2319 WOOLSEY, First Open! 3bd/2ba. Berkeley Brown Shingle duplex. \$320 Prudential CA Realty 339-9290, Gene Boomer 869-4202 2-4:30

681 HILLDALE AVE, 2bd/1ba. Immaculate home w/bay & bridge vws. \$220 Level out to patio. Thornwall Properties, Carole Rils 848-1950 X236 2-4

1225 THE ALAMEDA, 2+bd/1ba. Cute Craftsman. New Listing! \$210 Prudential CA Realty 339-9290, David Otero 869-4239

1608 DWIGHT WAY, 2bd/1ba w/hwdw floors, renovated kit & bath. \$210 Prudential CA Realty 339-9290, Dana Eng 869-4230 2-4:30

1129 BLAKE ST, 3+bd/2ba. Open & spacious. Newly renovated ranch \$210 style. Lovely ngrbrhd. Nr transp/shops. Prudential CA, Marius 845-0200 2-4

1032 VIRGINIA ST, 2bd/1ba 2-story farmhouse on a large lot. Walk \$210 to Fourth St shops. Thornwall Properties, Kathryn Hill 848-1950 X242 2-4

CASTRO VALLEY ***OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30***

5959 GREENRIDGE RD, 4+bd/2ba. Top of the Hill. Eichler built. \$380 Homes-Link, Gadsby 748-5300

EL CERRITO ***OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30***

1025 ARLINGTON, Secluded Alpine Lodge w/GG & Bay Vw. 1-level \$810 6bd/4ba on almost 1 acre. 2 garages. Berkeley Hills RE, Maya Trilling 524-0800

709 MIDCREST WAY, 4bd/2ba. \$410 Prudential CA Realty, Anna Lei 273-9127 2-4:30

6416 BARRETT, 3/3 trad'l w/warm & spacious rms. Den & family rms. \$380 Deck & garden. Big homey kitchen. Marvin Gardens RE, Todd Hodson 559-3200

2675 TAMALPAIS, 4bd/3ba w/beautiful views! \$370 Prudential CA Realty, Sharon Brown 527-9800 1-4

747 EVERETT, Nw Listing! Gorgeous tr-lvl MacGregor style 3bd/2ba \$310 on a lg lot w/GG bridge vw! Beaut. remod kit & bath. Hdwds floors, frpl, deck w/mature landscaping! Investment House RE, Jeanne Yeh 527-8774

6631 GATTO, Sophisticated Brown Shingle in EC Hills. Space to work \$310 entertain, relax. Deck. Balcony w/City vw. Marvin Gardens RE, Mary Gray 539-5800

1207 SCOTT ST, Meadows-built, 3bd/1ba. Solid home w/large deck, \$310 lovely landscaping. Prudential CA 524-2526, Anna-Majja Middleton 869-4400

7501 EUREKA, Perfect GG view from this updated 3bd/2ba home. \$310 Coldwell Banker, Kim Cleveland 486-1495

617 BALRA DR, Fab GG View! 1-owner, custom bkt, chenshed 2/1.5 \$310 on corner lot nr Fatapples. LR w/drs to deck. Marvin Gardens, Mary Gray 539-5800

1629 RICHMOND, Charming 2bd/2ba in convenient location. Sweet \$310 private patio. 2-car gar. Fwy access & BART. Templeton Co, Tricia 652-2133

KENSINGTON ***OPEN SUNDAY***

68 RICHARDSON RD, Sophisticated contemporary w/Bay View and \$310 wonderful natural light. 3bd/2+ba. Millstein & Assoc. Celina 527

Buyers: Property condition counts

condition of a home is one of the key elements in determining its value. This is particularly true at a time of high and rising prices. In a seller's market, buyers have the double pressure of competing with many other buyers for the same house while trying to secure a reasonable offer without lowering its true condition.

Our bodies, systems in a home tend to wear down with time. Much as plumbing and electrical systems are not the most expensive, and foundation, on the other hand, may run into tens of thousands of dollars.

Inspections

During a general home inspection, the roof, heating, plumbing, electrical, drainage, foundation, and other systems, as well as other aspects are reviewed. Less than five percent of all new, local listings have a general inspection report by a professional home inspector. In addition, sellers and their agents will show buyers to have their own inspection before writing a contract. This presents a real challenge for buyers.

Compounding matters, some buyers are prompted by perhaps 10 other buyers on the home they love, may be tempted to waive inspections. I recommend this risky strategy unless you have extensive construction and/or building experience. In the trades, I strongly suggest a professional inspection.

What You Don't Know Can Hurt You

By Don Dunning

Termite reports

In this area, most homes on the market have a termite (structural pest control) report. Although it may seem simple and straightforward, there is a definite art to reading and interpreting what these reports say and do not say.

For example, my buyers were interested in a property that had two termite reports. The first report totaled approximately \$15,000; the second, by a different company less than a year later, was less than \$2,000. I was concerned because the second report did not mention items from the first report that I was told had not been corrected.

I recommended to the buyers that we investigate who did the work, what it entailed, whether it was done under permit and why the first company was not brought back to reinspect.

Without experience and knowledgeable advice, many buyers unknowingly walk into a black hole and find out only later how widespread the termite issues really were.

Unpleasant surprises

Inspection reports completed during the escrow many times uncover

problems unknown to both the buyer and seller. At that point, especially with multiple offers, sellers are often reluctant to take responsibility for the faults.

The buyer may be left with the unpleasant choice of taking on potentially expensive defects or canceling the contract. An even worse scenario is when the buyer chooses not to have inspections and discovers serious issues after close of escrow.

Final thoughts

Unlike a television or computer that is not functioning properly, you cannot simply return a house once you own it. Although a seller is legally obligated to disclose known problems, these disclosures do not substitute for comprehensive inspections. Certain deficiencies can involve safety as well as value, e.g., a cracked furnace heat exchanger.

No matter how excited you get about a particular property, remember that condition is crucial.

Don Dunning is a 19-year real estate veteran. He is a full-time Realtor and consultant with Wells & Bennett Realtors in Oakland. Call him at (510) 531-7575, ext. 2392.

Stocks

FROM PAGE B1

your portfolio to take advantage of the wealth-preserving characteristics of bonds, while still maintaining some exposure to the potential growth offered by stocks.

As a stock investor, you should be prepared psychologically for the value of your investments to go down as much as they go up. For example, if you were a stock investor in 1994, stocks (as measured by the Standard & Poor's 500 Index) returned a paltry 1.3 percent on average, according to Zacks investment research of

Chicago. Chances are that you would have been very disappointed if you had invested in stocks that year alone. But you probably would have been ecstatic had you invested in stocks the following year when the average S&P 500 return climbed to 37.6 percent.

To reduce risk, many investors buy stocks and hold them for the long term, typically a minimum of three to five year time frame (1993-1997), your average return, excluding transaction costs and taxes would have been 21 percent. Keep in mind that past performance is not a guarantee of future results and that you cannot invest directly in an index.

If stock investing appears too risky for your tastes, you may be better

suited for a bond portfolio. But remember, there is risk in being too conservative. If inflation rises above what your bonds are returning in your portfolio, the value of your assets is worth less every year inflation outpaces your investment returns.

Just because you have stopped working, that does not mean you need to retire from stock investing.

Leila Gough is an Associate Vice President at A.G. Edwards in Oakland. She helps clients define and reach their investment goals. She can be reached at (510) 273-8851 or by e-mail leila.gough@agedwards.com.

Tour

FROM PAGE B1

ular CSL Boutique offers many unique items centered around the theme of home and garden.

A pre-purchased box lunch will be prepared by Blue Heron Catering.

The raffle includes over 200 prizes with Grand Prize hotel stays at the Mauna Lani and Mauna Kea Hotels in Hawaii, La Quinta Resort near Palm Springs and Pointe Hilton Resort at Squaw Peak, Phoenix.

Since 1988 Children's Support League has given over \$425,000 to local children's charities with the proceeds from this annual Tour, along

with private and corporate donations.

Last year, agencies such as Ann-Martin Children's Center, Bare Essentials for Babies and West Coast Children's Center were among the 14 grant recipients who used this money to help children and families in need.

Call (510) 273-9109 for more information.

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BERKELEY



20 PERTH PLACE • OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

Exquisite, private, ultimate in sophistication. 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Gorgeous views, sunny, great entertaining. This custom home also includes an in-law, elevator, and generous storage. Call Van Dyke ext. 137.....\$935,000



226 HILLCREST, CLAREMONT • OPEN SUN 2-4

Great location, light & Space. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, large yard, family room, office, luxurious master suite! Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$850,000



1514 SUMMIT ROAD • JUST LISTED!

This fine custom contemporary offers crisp, clean lines and beautiful bay views. Walk to Tilden or the Lawrence Hall of Science. 3BR + study + versatile office/family room. Shown by appointment only. Gini Erik ext. 133.....\$525,000



JULIA MORGAN

Claremont (Berkeley address/Oakland taxes). A unique offering: Julia Morgan designed this home for her mother in 1929. A lovely, shingled residence enjoying Southern exposure, spreading oak trees, borders the Claremont Canyon Park. 4BR/1.5BA. Marlene Leverette, ext. 121.....\$399,000



2705 VIRGINIA • NEW LISTING! • OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

Views and craftsman detailing! Fabulous triplex located in Berkeley historic neighborhood. There are one 1+BR/1BA unit, one 1+BR/1BA and one 2+BR/1BA unit. Call Schell ext. 144.....\$399,000 "As Is"



2417 5TH STREET • OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

Sophisticated "live/work" home in trendy, developing multi-use res. nbhd. 1898 Victorian renovated in 1995 & developed into 2 units. For sale is the upper unit, w/ground level studio/office, elegant priv. grdn, 11' ceilings, flooded w/light & grace w/splish details. 2BR, 2BA. Tricia Swift ext. 140.....\$376,000

OAKLAND



VIEWS OF EVERYTHING!

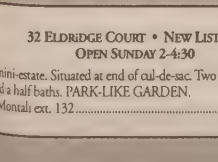
Great built home high in the Oakland hills. Master suite plus 3 full baths, formal dining room. Gourmet kitchen/family room, garage with interior access. Call McRae ext. 145.....\$995,000



STYLE AND SOPHISTICATION

A classic traditional home completely renovated with style, grace & sophistication. 3+BR, 2+BA with steam room, 2 fireplaces, sunny terraced decks and more! On the Piedmont border close to shops & trans. Ronald Egberman ext. 127.....\$475,000

KENSINGTON



32 ELDRIDGE COURT • NEW LISTING! OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

1714 mini-estate. Situated at end of cul-de-sac. Two bedrooms, and a half bath. PARK-LIKE GARDEN. Call Montali ext. 132.....\$425,000



EI CERRITO

Charming home with 3BR/2BA, large sunny yard, Kensington School district! Call McRae ext. 145.....\$405,000

1629 RICHMOND. OPEN SUN 2-4. Charming well made home in conv. loc. Freeway access & Del Norte BART close at hand! Sweet private patio in rear. 2BR, 2BA, 2-car gar. Tricia Swift ext. 140.....\$230,000

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REALTORS

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Piedmont - Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m.

23 HIGHLAND AVENUE NEW LISTING \$875,000
Fabulous Craftsman on a grand scale. 5+ bedrooms, wonderful fenced back garden, partial Bay view. Charm galore & plenty of room for a crowd. KATHERINE COOPER

190 ESTATES DRIVE NEW LISTING \$675,000
Top quality custom home w/Bay & hill views. Leads to grand living room & dining area. 4+ bedrooms, 3+ baths, 2 car garage. KATHERINE COOPER

162 ESTATES \$695,000
This inviting home is full of the amenities that enhance gracious living. Formal living room with beamed ceiling, dining room with view, kitchen/family room, attractive gardens and 4 bedrooms/3 baths. MINDY SCOTT

950 ROSE AVENUE \$559,000
Piedmont Victorian with level out garden. Suitable for today's lifestyle. Features include 4 bedrooms & formal dining room. SHEILA GALLAGHER

Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m.

5833 ROMANY ROAD NEW LISTING \$790,000
Elegant 5 bdrm/3+ba family home, built in 1947. Rumpus opens to rear yard. Refinished hwd flrs. DEBRA DRYDEN

4305 SAINT CLOUD COURT NEW PRICE \$465,000
Lovely Ridgmont. Contemporary w/4 bdrms & living rm w/fireplace, modern eat-in kitch, spacious family room and large bonus room with built-ins. SHERRY BENNINGER

6032 ACACIA AVENUE \$749,000
You'll feel the French influence in this Claremont Pines. 4 yr old custom home, merging practical family living with warmth, style & elegance. ELIZABETH DICKSON

4128 HARBOR VIEW DR NEW LISTING \$399,000
This stunning 3 bdrm/2 ba Contemporary home is a joy. Enjoy panoramic views from floor to ceiling windows, landscaped garden w/fountain. MAVIS DICKSON

120 SHERIDAN ROAD NEW LISTING \$529,000
Spacious 4 bdrm/3 1/2 ba home with soaring ceilings. Two master suites with fireplace. Beautiful kitchen & formal dining room. Many plus rooms. JOHN KARNAY

5642 AMY DRIVE \$499,000
Upper Rockridge Traditional. This unique home features 2 complete kitchens & lovely garden. 3 bdrms/2 1/2 ba, hwd flrs & cozy family room w/fireplace. ANIAN TUNNEY

5178 PARKRIDGE DRIVE NEW LISTING \$389,000
Expansive views of nature, easy access to trails, sidewalks and sun! Great home office could be 4th bed. Gorgeous kitchen. BETTINA BALESTRIERI

4614 REDWOOD ROAD \$345,000
Leona Park Villas 3 bedroom/ 2 1/2 bath Spanish Mediterranean townhouse w/level flagstone patio, elegant master suite with jacuzzi tub. Wooded view. LANI DYER

935 LONGRIDGE ROAD \$495,000
Spacious Contemporary w/random plank floors, beautiful updated kitchen, family room, 2 fireplaces, 4 bedrooms/3 baths, loft patio & deck. JAMES GARCIA

308 ELWOOD AVENUE \$299,000
Charming 3 bdrm/2 ba Craftsman bungalow. Beautiful architectural detail. Eat-in kitchen, level yard. Close to transportation & shops. MELITTA BEESLEY

Piedmont & Oakland - By Appointment

COUNTRY ESTATE IN PIEDMONT \$2,495,000
Historical English Country Estate on a level site. Elegant formal rooms, European library & luxurious master suite w/ dual baths, 10+/-/7+ & guest house. SANDRA VOGL

WORK OF ART \$1,095,000
This home was designed to be a welcoming retreat w/ handcrafted accents throughout. Embraced by a spectacular SF view, w/4+ bdrms/4 1/2 ba. DONALD WOOLHOUSE

ELEGANT NEW HOME \$699,000
This new home is a work of art w/soft Tuscan plaster interior, hand-crafted doors & ironwork. A luxurious bath & fireplace in master suite. DEBRA DRYDEN

STUNNING CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$679,000
Stunning one of a kind 4+ bdrm/3 ba Art Deco home. High ceiling, grand formal rooms, updated kitchen, family room, workshop & level lot. JAMES GARCIA

TERRABELLA GEM \$367,000
Original tri-level 3 bdrm/2+ ba model w/ beautiful Bay & bridge views. Spacious formal dining room w/eat-in kitchen, family room & 2 decks. ANGELA WEI GRUBB

ROCKRIDGE CONDOMINIUM \$249,000
Smashing Rockridge 2 bedroom/2 bath condo w/new paint & carpet in master suite, walk-in closet & eat-in kitchen. Near BART & shops. ASHLEY WILCOX O'NEILL

UNIQUE CONDO \$159,500
Unique Mediterranean style condo. Lush environment w/ waterfalls & bridges. 2 bdrm/2 ba. Hill views. ANGELA GRUBB

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BERKELEY ■ 510.652.2133 ■ email: Templeton@slip.net

Visit our website: <http://www.templetoncompany.com>

First-time

FROM PAGE B7

institution programs are available for first-time home buyers. Ask your real estate professional about low down payment options through agencies such as the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), first-time-buyer

programs or lender promotions.

You are under no obligation to purchase from the lender who pre-qualified you. If you talk to other lenders, make sure you know their qualifying ratios. This will give you a good idea of whether or not you will be approved.

Be sure to evaluate points and other loan servicing fees as well as interest rates, the term of the loan and the total cost of home ownership.

Think carefully about the advantages of fixed versus variable rates.

Remember closing costs

A common mistake among first time buyers is to forget the somewhat burdensome but necessary closing costs often associated with a home purchase. Occasionally buyers with excellent credit may be able to use loan proceeds to pay these fees but normally you will need cash, in ad-

dition to your down payment, to cover these costs. On the brighter side, many of these costs are customarily paid by the seller in the Bay Area.

While these tips are a useful general guide for the first-time buyer, there is no substitute for the individual advice that a seasoned real estate professional can provide.

The good news for first-time buyers is that you are starting off the same way nearly everyone else did. The whole system works financially only if you succeed in purchasing your new home.

Financial institutions, government agencies, loan brokers, real estate agents and sellers all want you to be suc-

cessful in making your purchase. Proceeding with determination and confidence, your dream home will become your home in a flash.

Brian Williamson is an experienced Realtor. He can be reached at 287-9281 or (510) 845-0300.

Office

FROM PAGE B5

equipment, and show you how to include the size and shape work surface, storage and filing spaces you need.

Gathering estimates

Request a rough drawing and approximate cost estimate within one working day. Some dealers will work out a plan for your space during your visit.

Others will make a no-charge visit to your home to be sure your measurements are exact. You can also ask to see photographs of actual home offices the dealer has designed and sold and can request the names of one or two references.

Doing your homework

Review the product literature, compare the value and follow up with references names you received. Evaluate the proposed home office furnishings and layouts from perspective of function, design and ergonomics.

For example, your desk should accommodate the size of your equipment, the lighting should come from three distinct sources (natural, ambient and direct) to prevent eye strain and your chair should provide ergonomic support to prevent neck and back strain.

For additional information on GALVINS visit our web site at www.galvins.com or contact Brinn Talbot, Jennifer Voyles or Deborah Kwan at (415) 439-5335.



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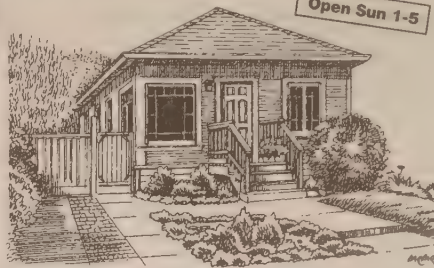
- Marketing Expert
- Background in news reporting, public relations and advertising
- Successful in multiple offer situations
- Sold first \$1 million house in Berkeley

Julie Nachtwey
Fine Homes Specialist
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1338 CORNELL AVENUE • BERKELEY

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Offered at \$275,000



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Top Producer, 1998
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OAKLAND / PIEDMONT

* NEW
ON MARKET!\$225,000
2BD/1BA charming! Hardwood floors, fireplace, tandem garage, deck with hot tub, dining room, full basement.

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QUIET
NEIGHBORHOOD...\$149,950
2BD/2BA Separate artist's studio in back. Won't last long.

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VIEW, VIEW,
VIEW, VIEW\$375,000
El Cerrito view home - 4+ bedrooms, 3 baths, possible in-law - Watch the sunset over Mt. Tamalpais - large family room - Call for details.

Sharon Brown
(510) 235-4795
(510) 527-9800

HURRY!! THIS HOME
WON'T LAST\$208,000
Beautiful three bedroom, one bath home in El Cerrito - Call today to view.

Jean Lopes
(510) 527-9800

RESIDENTIAL INCOME



**RARE ROCKRIDGE
4-PLEX
\$875,000**

Beautiful and well-maintained in coveted area. Walk to BART, shops. Large lot, private garden. Parking for each unit.

Arlene Baxter
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(510) 845-0200

SAN LEANDRO

CONTEMPORARY
4BD/3BA\$340,000
Vaulted ceilings double entry doors, solar system, family room with frpl, lg. 2 car garage.

Caroline Hooton
(510) 865-2949

BERKELEY/ALBANY

ELMWOOD
GEM\$299,000
3BD/2BA, hardwood floors, updated electric and plumbing, formal dining room, off-street parking and more...

Greg Gayle
(510) 845-0200

STUNNING
REMODEL\$275,000
In great Westbrae location. Everything is new! Master and deck too! Beautiful garden.

Grazina Bivins
(510) 845-0211

OAKLAND
DUPLEX\$357,500
Wonderful Duplex close to Rose Garden, shops, transportation, and lake. Each unit has 2 bedrooms. A must see.

Vince Moran
(510) 835-5340

* TRIPLEX OPTIONS
IN BERKELEY\$175,000

Three 1BD/1BA units in San Pablo Park neighborhood. Public transportation close. Open Sunday, 2-4:30 p.m. 1231 Bancroft Graham Canyon (510) 845-0200

LOTS FOR SALE

BUILD YOUR DREAM
HOME!\$199,000
2 downslope fire lots on prestigious street close to Claremont Hotel. Buy one or both! \$135,000 each! Contiguous. Lillie Braudy, Top Producer (510) 526-5143, (510) 845-0200

CLAREMONT
LOTS\$110,000 & \$99,000
Large parcel, subdivided into two buildable lots. Views. Motivated seller. Miriam Weiss (510) 845-0200

BREATHTAKING VIEWS
Don't miss a chance to purchase one of the last remaining lots in prestigious Claremont Knolls. Candy (510) 422-8400

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7 BAY FOREST PL.\$659,000
NEW LISTING! New construction on cul-de-sac, San Francisco and Bay views, 4+ BR/3.5BA, formal dining room, family room. Quality detailing everywhere including granite counters and hardwood floors. Wendy Callaghan ext. 237



4008 LA CRESTA AVE.\$329,500
High quality remodel of charming 3BD/2BA Glenview beauty. Fabulous MBR suite w/whirlpool tub, great kit w/granite counter & hdwd frs, LR w/built-ins, tiled frpl, FDR, new copper plumbing, furnace, foundation & wiring, small office/computer rm, refn. hdwd frs, rebuilt gar, new front yd. Don Dunning 482-2256



274 MATHER ST. #1\$119,000
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6180 MORAGA AVE.\$399,000
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SPORTS

VJ

April 8, 1999

Section C

Track St. Mary's boys primed to win league and section crowns [C2]

Softball Albany-Berkeley Girls Softball League results [C2]

El Cerrito shocks Acalanes, BHS stumbles Gauchos surprise the field at star-studded Stargell Classic

By Scott Strain

The El Cerrito baseball team was considered the weakest squad, so to speak, in the Willie Stargell Easter Classic at the College of Alameda.

The Gauchos had the only losing record (4-7-1) among the eight teams in the tournament and had been no-hit, 10-0, by Encinal a week ago.

The field is strong — Bishop O'Dowd, Encinal, North Coast Section 3A champion Monte Vista and NCS 2A champion Acalanes are among the teams — but who is sorry now?

Not the Gauchos. They handed Acalanes a shocking 11-6 defeat Saturday in a first-round game.

El Cerrito played Bishop O'Dowd in a rain-delayed championship bracket game on Wednesday morning, with hopes of another upset and a shot at the tournament finals.

That didn't happen, with O'Dowd getting a 9-4 victory on Wednesday to send the Gauchos to the consolation finals on either Thursday or Friday, depending on the weather.

The O'Dowd game was decided early when the Dragons scored seven runs in the second inning on four walks and three hits.

The killer was a three-run double by O'Dowd's Jason Comte in the top of the inning.

El Cerrito responded with one run in the bottom of the second inning and the teams traded a pair of runs each in the fifth inning, but this one was already over.

The Gauchos hurt themselves by stranding 11 runners and the only highlights were Ken Hirose's two RBI and David Rose's double and triple.

That is where the story should end, but who knows? Baseball, as some sage once said, is a funny game. The Gauchos had a shot at third place overall and that would be an accomplishment in a tournament with such great competition.

"Right now, any victory is a good victory for us," coach Dennis Abel said.

"During the preseason we lost four games by a total of five runs, so we felt we were a little snakebit."

We knew we would be up against a real good club in Acalanes. We got some clutch hitting and everybody pretty much did what we wanted them to do."

Good attitude

The Gauchos played Acalanes with a never-say-die attitude that kept them in the game.

El Cerrito spotted Acalanes a 2-0 lead in the first inning, then came back to go ahead 3-2 in the top of the fourth with the big hit being Leonard Mundy's two-run single.

The Dons came back to take a 5-3 lead by scoring three runs in the bottom of the fourth, but the Gauchos struck back with five in the fifth for an 8-5 lead.

The big hits (actually the only hits) in the inning were a run-scoring triple by Zack Court and an RBI double by Dan Benton.

Court was a thorn in the Acalanes' side all game. His two-run triple in the sixth gave him three RBI for the game and pushed the lead to 11-5.

The Dons' defense helped in a big way — it made four errors. Three Acalanes pitchers walked six batters and four of them scored.

Reyes of relief

El Cerrito also got some good relief pitching. In the fourth, Acalanes had already scored three runs and still had the bases when Edwin Reyes came in and struck out Patrick Cochrane for the final out.

After that, Reyes gave up one run on four hits but got the big outs he needed to deny the Dons.

"He (Reyes) shut them down and got that big strikeout," Abel said. "Camilo Ramirez also pitched well."

Court drove in three runs with his two triples and Benton and Mundy each had two RBI.

Court, David Rose and Joe McBride scored two runs apiece.



BHS' JOSH DANIELS slides into second before Dublin's Jesse Beal could tag him out at the Willie Stargell Classic

Berkeley baseball wants r-e-s-p-e-c-t

Jackets miss showdown with O'Dowd at Willie Stargell Tourney

By Scott Strain

ALAMEDA — All the Berkeley baseball team wants is a little respect.

Whether or not the Yellowjackets get it won't depend on their finish in the Willie Stargell Easter Classic, which is being played at the College of Alameda this week.

It will depend on what they do in the Bay Athletic League, but it really would

n't hurt to do well here, too.

First Berkeley brought its flashy 8-0 record in the first round of the tournament on Saturday and was unceremoniously dumped by Dublin 12-9.

It was disappointing to the people who wanted to see a powerhouse championship game between the Jackets and an 11-1 Bishop O'Dowd team.

It won't happen; Berkeley lost and the Dragons won in first-round games, but

the Yellowjackets won a modicum of respect back by defeating a scrappy San Lorenzo team 6-5 in 10 innings on Tuesday in a rain-delayed (from Monday) second-round game.

Berkeley was to scheduled to play Acalanes for the consolation championship, which depending on the haphazard weather, was either today or Friday.

See BERKELEY, Page C2

Cougars one step from the top

Albany softball finding its rhythm

By Mike McGreehan

No field, little practice? No problem. Campus reconstruction has not allowed Albany High School's softball team much practice time on an actual field this year. So far, most of the Cougars' practice has been limited to indoors in a gym.

For a team that didn't get much practice time due to the lack of field availability, the Albany softball team has done all right. At least it has early in the season.

"Everybody is very focused this year," Cougars coach Ray Mejia says. "And even though we got on the field late, we're probably farther ahead this year than we

were at this time last year."

Through its first three Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League games, Albany sports a 2-1 record. The Cougars are 2-4 overall.

"The first game with Salesian didn't go too well," said Mejia. "We didn't get much practice time and it really showed in that game. But we did better after that. We got our rhythm earlier this year than we did last year."

Team leaders

Four players have emerged as team leaders for the Cougars.

Angelica Romero, normally catcher, has split time between second base and shortstop while playing on a tender ankle.

Despite her injury, which still limits the number of innings she can play, Romero has been productive both at the

plate and in the field.

"Right now, she's playing just a little more than half the game," said Mejia of Romero. "When I see the injury is bothering her, I take her out so she can ice it down. But she's a good, solid hitter. As soon as her ankle injury heals, I'll have her back behind the plate."

Leifa Mayers leads the team in stolen bases, and left fielder Sofia Rivera is not far behind. In addition to her running, Rivera has been solid both with the glove and the bat.

Defensive pitcher

Most high school softball teams, though, live and die with their pitching. A good pitcher can mean the difference between a league championship contender and a

See COUGARS, Page C2

Berkeley softball 'The scariest team in the league'

Strong play by Jackets hard to dismiss in EBAL

By Mike McGreehan

Berkeley High softball plays in a pretty tough league — the East Bay Athletic League. Not surprisingly, the Yellowjackets' league season got off to a tough start as they had to face two of the league's toughest teams.

Berkeley (4-5 overall) opened its EBAL season last Tuesday with a 2-1 loss to Granada High. Two days later, Livermore High beat the Yellowjackets 6-0.

Despite the losses, Berkeley coach Tom McGill remains optimistic.

"We had a pretty strong preseason, and in league we lost to a strong Granada team that is ranked No. 2 (in some East Bay polls)," McGill said.

On paper, Granada should have won easily. But the Yellowjackets were never out of the game.

Granada scored its first run on a passed ball. The winning run scored after the umpire made an obstruction call at third base.

Two days later, Berkeley made five errors against Livermore. But the Jackets were clearly not their usual selves.

"The girls were taking mandatory exams at 3:45. The game was at 4:15," said McGill. "Many came late. Most were

probably up all night preparing for the test. The Livermore coach said if it wasn't for that, the score might have been 1-0."

Many positives

In spite of their tough start, the Yellowjackets have many positives.

Start with pitcher Lily Bermeo. Some consider the right-handed junior the best pitcher in the EBAL. At least she has held her own against other quality hurlers.

"She has gone against two of the top pitchers in the EBAL and has matched them strikeout for strikeout," said McGill.

For the record, Bermeo struck out 10 Granada batters. She fanned nine Livermore hitters two days later.

Freshman third baseman Emily Friedman has played extremely well for the Yellowjackets, as has senior center fielder Ania Wilson.

Another player of note is sophomore catcher Alice Brugger, who has filled in behind the plate while regular catcher Amanda Cherrin recovers from an injury. Brugger has played very well in an emergency role.

"Right now, they've been carrying us," McGill says of Bermeo, Friedman, Wilson and Brugger. "They haven't been just great defensive players, but fine offensive players, too. We've just got to get some more of our runners home."

League factor

See JACKETS, Page C2

Panthers moving up the softball ladder

St. Mary's program progressing over the long run

By Mike McGreehan

Despite the Panthers' 12-5 loss to Albany High in the last game it played March 31, the St. Mary's High softball team has shown some improvement over last year.

The Panthers (5-2-1) have a fine up-and-coming pitcher in freshman Mikki Vrankovich.

Catcher Liz Spivey has also been a

plus for the team, and first baseman Alex Hammond has been an offensive spark plug. Stacia Clutts has shown some fine defensive play at shortstop.

"So far, in the two losses, the team hasn't played at the level it has in the other games," said Panthers coach Casey Filson. "It's beaten Piedmont and Encinal, teams it hadn't come close to beating last year."

Vrankovich was on her game in a 2-1 win over Piedmont. The first-year pitcher trimmed 14 runs from the result of last year and this time the team won.

"By far, it was her best game," said Filson of her ace pitcher. "She had only one strikeout, but she held them to only one run. Last year, they beat us 15-0."

St. Mary's used its offense to earn a 16-9 win over Encinal. This time Hammond led the way.

"She had a home run and double against Encinal," Filson said of his first baseman. "We played eight games and she's had six multiple-hit games."

Biggest challenge

The biggest challenge facing the Panthers now is to avoid becoming rusty. The Panthers won't play again until they face Salesian High on April 16.

"After a two-week layoff, it's going to be hard to resume that caliber of play," said Filson.

See PANTHERS, Page C2

Albany-Berkeley Girls Softball League results

By Michael Blake

The girls of the ABGSL honed their skills in their second week of play before the Easter weekend, and there were already flashes of brilliance in the young season. Here are recaps of some of the best games.

MICRO DIVISION

Andronico's For the Andronico's team, Yasmin Louie got two solid hits and raced around the bases to score runs each time. Molly Fullerton also smashed two singles and, with her heads-up running, added two more runs for the supergrocers. Rachel Chazin-Grey deftly snagged a ground ball and threw it over to a prepared and confident Marina Hunt, who registered the out at first.

Salon Salon Salon Dolphins defense was impressive, with Sasha Ginsberg making three outs at first. Pitcher Lily Felder and Dyana Elkan combined for two impressive defensive putouts in the final inning. Violetta Alaiyan had the only triple when she led off the second inning.

Alpha Phi Bears The sensation of the day was Sonya Javits' home run smash — the season's first. The dynamic duo of Liana Egan and Javits also made a sparkling putout at first base. The "force" was with Kelsey Fredriksen and Austin Collister as well, as Collister made two putouts and Fredriksen showed outstanding throwing and fielding.

YOUNGER DIVISION

Prudential Mighty Ducks 14
Dr. Brennan's 14

Under Candlestick Park-like conditions of wind, cold, and rain, these two teams still managed a two-inning slugfest that ended in a tie.

Each team scored six times in the first inning. The Ducks led off the second with Hannah Kramer belting a single to left. Joan Cannon then tripled to the outfield and ran with

legs ablur, hot on Kramer's heels. Behind 14-6, the Dr. Brennan's Smile Makers led off with a (temporarily) one-armed Sarah Neuhaus, who legged out a grounder toward first.

Two hitters later, Natasha Seiberling laced a high bouncer up the middle. With winds whipping dust in eyes and fingers numb to the bone, the final batter, Kayla Sims, finished off a 2-for-2 day with a liner up the middle that scored the tying run. The umpire called the game after two complete innings.

Strategic Eco. Falcons 14
Ask Jeeves Hawks 13

Three Falcons hit safely in the first, on singles by Isa Guardalabene, Emily Cote, and Johanna Heyer. Hawk Angelique Traub slowed the Falcons with an impressive flyball catch, but the Falcons' offense pressed on. Leah Belzer Adams drove the ball down the third-base line for a double, and Megan Derwin-Ackerman blasted a double to right.

In their half of the first, the Hawks roared back with hard singles by Paris Clark, Rosie Kerstetter and Rachael Masterson.

Sure-handed fielding by Falcon third baseman Hanna Lignell kept the Hawks from getting ahead, but they battled back to a 7-7 tie.

In the top of the second the Hawks' defense was sharp, with pitcher Kianna Ervin twice throwing to first, where the sure-handed Mattison Peters grabbed her throws.

But the Falcons' offense managed seven runs, with Emily Cooper blasting an impressive double.

In the bottom of the second, the Hawks' Minna Schilling and Silvie Senauke led off with singles, and the speedy Senauke reached third on some heads-up base-running.

But Falcon Alexes Bowyer kept her team ahead, first with an unassisted putout at first, then fielding a throw from Belzer Adams in the

pitcher's circle to catch another Hawk.

The Hawks' defense was impressive in the top of the third, with Mollie Hudson twice fielding ground balls and throwing to first baseman Taylor Jacoby for outs.

The Hawks held the Falcons to only three runs. Sadly for the home team, when it was their turn to bat, darkness forced an end to the contest, giving the Falcons the victory.

MIDDLE DIVISION

Prins Chlro. Basebones 5
Xinet Zippers 3

This began as a tense pitching and defensive duel, as neither team scored for the first two and a half innings.

For the Zippers, Christina Skonberg shut down the Basebones in her accurate pitching debut. Rookie Abigail Wall, playing second base in the second inning, made a great catch to keep the score 0-0.

Anya Graetich and Zoe Thiele Seidenberg started the Zippers' fourth inning offensive rally with sharp outfield hits. Then Annie Rigney, facing a two-out, two-strike count, reached out for a low ball and fired it into the La Loma sunset for a double to score two runs.

On defense for the Basebones, Lianna Louie caught a breath-taking pop fly with two outs, stranding a runner wistfully waiting at third.

In the Chiropractic bottom of the third, Lianna ran out an infield hit and scored when Sonja Prins broke the scoreless tie with a clutch two-out hit to drive in two runs. Prins' breakthrough inspired her teammates to follow with consecutive RBI by Hannah Johnson, Simone Morris-Martin, and Sarah Ball.

Editor's note: our hard-working ballplayers are now off on spring break, so there are no games this week. The next ABGSL report will be on April 22.

we win. I don't really want it (respect) at this level because I'm so concerned about league play. If we can do well in the toughest 3A division in North California, that will be respect enough."

Players' view

The Jacket players do want respect, and they showed it with a great deal of tenacity by wiping out deficits of 4-3 and 5-4 against San Lorenzo.

The last one was the most crucial because San Lorenzo took a 5-4 lead in the 10th and Berkeley had just one chance left to either win or tie.

Greer Wiggins, who hit a three-run homer against Dublin on Saturday, led off the 10th with a double to center.

Dan Pfister came in as a pinch runner and Gerardo Mejia sacrificed him to third. Skylar Barton grounded a single to left to score Pfister with the tying run.

Rob Collignon, who had hit a two-run, inside-the-park home run in the fourth, was hit by a pitch and went to second on a wild pitch.

Barton advanced to third on the play. After Dahrio Hutton popped to first, Marshane Adams walked. Josh

Daniel then singled to center to drive home Barton for the game-winner.

The Yellowjackets scored a run in the second on an error and, after the Rebels scored four times in the sixth to take a 4-3 lead, Berkeley's Julian Benavidez singled home Adams in the bottom of the seventh to tie the game at 4-4.

Ugly opener

Against Dublin on Saturday, it got real ugly real fast for the Jackets.

Wiggins' blast gave the Yellowjackets a 4-0 lead in the first, but the Gaels scored seven in the bottom half of the inning and Berkeley never caught up.

Wiggins had four RBI on the day and Elishama Goldfarb had a two-run single. Dublin raked starting pitcher Junis Adams for 16 hits in 5 1/3 innings.

"We let everyone down, even (O'Dowd coach) Joel Kaufman," Gordon said of the anticipated matchup. "We dropped the ball."

But there is still time for Gordon and his team to pick it up, even in what he considers to be the toughest 3A division around.

the team appears to have the goods to be a factor in the league.

"After five errors (in the Livermore game), most teams would have folded," said McGill. "But they kept their heads in the game until the end."

McGill then added one more compliment: "They might be the scariest team in the league because everyone knows they can play quite strong."

The challenge now is to turn that strong play into wins.

Panthers

Salesian is one of the best teams in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League.

St. Mary's isn't at that level yet, or that of Albany, but the Panthers are showing positive progress and in time who knows how good this team can be.

Panthers place third at Oakland Relays

St. Mary's on track for a great season

By Mike McGreehan

If results from last Saturday's Oakland Invitational Relays at Chabot College in Hayward are any indication, the St. Mary's High School boys track team should do very well in both the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League and the North Coast Section.

St. Mary's placed third in the team standings at the prestigious meet with 34 points.

Vallejo was an easy winner with 74 points, followed by Reed-Sparks, Nev., which finished a distant second with 41. Neither of those teams, though, competes in the NCS. Vallejo competes in the Sac-Joquin Section.

Heavy winds hampered all the runners. But the Panthers persevered.

"We're running well, we're progressing well," said Panthers coach Jay Lawson. "Our kids competed well even with the heavy wind."

Individually for the Panthers, Koman placed fourth in the 400-

meter run (49.89).

"Koman is running very well," said Lawson.

Asokah Muhammad was third in the triple jump (44-0 1/4). Ebon Glenn took sixth in the high jump (6-0).

The Panthers also performed well in relays. St. Mary's placed second in both the 800-meter and 1,600-meter relays (1:30.61 and 3:20.56, respectively). Julian Keyes, Paki Gordon, Connor Banks and Chris Dunbar ran the 800. Jamaal Brown, Gordon, Lovan and Denye Versher went in the 1,600.

"Our mile relay had our best time of the year even with all that wind," said Lawson.

St. Mary's also was third in the 400-meter relay (42.72) and sixth in the sprint medley relay (3:46.25). Dunbar, Gordon, Banks and Versher ran the 400. Keyes, Versher, Brown and James Ross went in the sprint medley relay.

Girls are eighth

The Panthers placed eighth in girls team competition with 24 points.

J.W. North-Riverside made the long trip up from Southern California to easily capture first place with 61 1/2 points.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Soccer

The Montclair Clippers, Rockridge Poison and Piedmont Highlanders girls soccer teams will hold joint tryouts for Class III select teams in the under 16 age group (born on or after Aug. 1, 1983). Wear a white or very light colored T-shirt or jersey. Tryouts will be

held on Sunday April 11 and Sunday April 18, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., at the Merritt College soccer fields.

Call one of the following coaches below for confirmation: Montclair Clippers coach Roy Gorman 465-8899; Rockridge Poison coach Tom Graff 658-8157; Piedmont Highlanders coach John Kirby 655-1846.

The Southern Alameda Youth Soccer League will hold tryouts for its under-14 girls Class I teams from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lorenzo Community Center "Pond" on Sunday, April 11. The Pond is located at 1970 Via Bernal in San Lorenzo. For details call McCallion at 317-7938.

Cougars

FROM PAGE C1

mediocre team.

So far, the Cougars seem to have that pitcher in right-hander Kyle Kemp, who also impresses with her defensive play.

"Defensively, she's very strong," says Mejia. "When she throws a pitch, she's not finished. She's ready for the ball coming back up the middle."

Like many teams now, Albany is on its spring break. The Cougars will resume their season when they visit De Anza next Wednesday. Albany comes home two days later to face El Cerrito.

If the Cougars can maintain their

level of play — well, the next ACCAL had better beware.

"Right now, we are extremely balanced, which is why I'm pleased with what is going on. They're fielding well, hitting well. When I make a great difference from one to the next."

Berkeley

FROM PAGE C1

"That's the big question for us every year," coach Lari Gordon said. "Are we overrated? All the papers around here never give us credit."

Gordon has reason to say this, based on the happenings of last year. Even after beating ranked teams, the Jackets were left off the top 10 lists of most media polls.

"We weren't even ranked at the end of the season last year even though it was our first time in the playoffs in 22 years," said Gordon. "Five of the top-10 teams we beat, even the team that won North Coast (Monte Vista) and we didn't finish with a ranking."

Gordon makes a good case for his team's lack of respect, but then he takes a 180-degree view to that respect by talking the importance of league play. Respect will come, he said, if his team does well in the East Bay Athletic League.

"I don't take offense to it — my guys do," said Gordon. "I don't think we get the credit for the games that

Jackets

FROM PAGE C1

Currently, the Yellowjackets are working out over spring break. Games resume Tuesday when Berkeley travels to Monte Vista. The Jackets play host to Foothill next Thursday.

If the Yellowjackets' first two EBAL games serve as any indicator,

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the I-80 BICYCLE/ PEDESTRIAN OVERCROSSING



The proposed I-80 Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing will provide non-automobile access between the north end of Aquatic Park to the east of I-80 and the (future) Bay Trail and Eastshore State Park to the west of I-80, just south of University Avenue.

The *Environmental Initial Study* for the I-80 Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing Project will be available for review between Friday, April 2, 1999 and Monday, May 3, 1999. Copies can be reviewed at the City of Berkeley Public Library (Central, Claremont, North, South and West Branches) or at the Office of Capital Projects at 1900 Addison Street, Mezzanine Level.

The Planning Commission would like to hear your comments on the *Environmental Initial Study* at their April 14, 1999 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, April 14 - 7 p.m.
North Berkeley Senior Center
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The City Council is expected to take action on the environmental document at their May 11, 1999 meeting.

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Arts

EVENTS



RAY YOUNG

TE (Ashley Howard) and Greg (George McRae) try to deal with Sylvia (Rachel Brown), Greg's dog, who has taken over the household, in the Actors Ensemble of Berkeley production of "Sylvia" by A.R. Gurney.

"Sylvia" at AET

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley presents Sylvia by A.R. Gurney, opening April 9, at 8 p.m. at Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, with performances on Friday and Saturdays at 8 p.m. through May 8, and one Thursday performance at 8 p.m. on May 6.

Jeff Seaberg is directing the play, the ensemble's 42nd season.

In this inventive comedy of unrequited love, a prescient pooch puts its owner through his paces. For reservations call 528-5620. Admission \$9, with discounts for groups of 10 or more.

"King of Masks"

Legendary Chinese director Wu Ming's "The King of Masks," a poignant tale about a lonely old man and a luckless little girl, bound together by fate and suffering and changed by the power of love opens April 12 for an exclusive East Bay performance at the Shattuck Cinema, Shattuck Avenue at Kittredge, in Berkeley.

Old man Wang (Zhu Xu) is a street performer who excels at the ancient art of face-changing. The intricate play of masks and light-of-hand has been in his family generations, it will be lost forever unless the aging master can lure up a male heir to whom he passes on his unique skill. Wang, who lost his only son decades ago, decides to adopt a little boy who could become the next King of Masks.

In the poverty-ridden and rigidly patriarchal Sichuan provinces of the 19th century, girls are not just second-class citizens, they are chattel to be sold for a pittance by families who cannot afford to feed them. Only in the best of cases would a family disown a young male, and Wang is determined to abandon all hope of finding a wife when he comes upon little Zhen (Zhou Ren-ying), an adorable 10-year-old being sold by his destitute father. Imagine his shock when he discovers a few weeks later that Zhen is really a girl. Details: 843-2222.

Artist Murray Perahia

Cal Performances is hosting the exclusive Bay Area appearance of one of the world's most cherished pianists, after pianist, Murray Perahia, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 11 at Zellerbach Hall on the UC



MURRAY PERAHIA

campus.

Perahia, who won a Grammy for his CD Bach English Suites (1996), was praised by The Wall Street Journal for his "sublime gift" and called "one of the most important pianists of our day or perhaps any other." His April 11 recital includes Bach's English Suite No. 3 in G minor, Beethoven's Sonata in C minor, Op. 10, No. 3, and Schumann's "Sonata quasi una fantasia" Op. 10, No. 2, "Moonlight"; and Schubert's Sonata in C minor.

Tickets: \$22, \$32, and \$42, available through the Cal Performances Office at Zellerbach Hall and (510) 642-9988 to charge by credit card. All BASS outlets, BASS Bookstore, Phone at (510) 762-BASS Arts Line at (415) 776-2222 and at the door.

Kensington Symphony

The Kensington Symphony Orchestra will present a program of twentieth-century music on Saturday, April 17 at 8 p.m. at the First Baptist Church at 770 Sonoma St. in Richmond. Mike Graber, pianist, will play Aubade for Piano and Winds by Francis Poulenc. The orchestra will perform St. Paul Suite for Strings by Gustav Holst and SumPhonic Variation, Opus 76 by Antonin Dvorak. Tickets will be available at the door; they are \$10, general admission; \$8, seniors; children under 12, free. Details: 525-4796.

Banff Mountain Film Festival

Recreational Equipment Inc. is hosting the Bay Area screenings of the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour, featuring the Best of the Festival, on Saturday, April 10 from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at Wheeler Auditorium on the UC Berkeley campus.

Tickets for the shows are \$10 in advance through Bay Area REI stores. Tickets will be available at the door for \$12 unless the events sell out in advance. Net proceeds from the Berkeley screening benefit the Cal Adventures Youth Program. Net proceeds from the Belmont screening benefit the Bay Area Wilderness Training Program.

Among the finest mountain adventure films in the world, the films included in this year's Best of the Festival feature world-class rock climbing, extreme skiing and snowboarding, kayaking and efforts to conserve mountain environments and cultures. Details: 527-7377.

"Mr. Right Now"

Today, Saturday and Sunday, the Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway in Oakland, presents the gospel stage play "Mr. Right Now," with performances at 8 p.m. each day, a 3 p.m. matinee Saturday and Sunday, and a 7:30 p.m. staging on Sunday. Details: 893-2300, ext. 801.

Saturday theater day camp

On Saturdays beginning April 3, the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave. in Berkeley is hosting a "Saturday Club" day camp full of singing, acting, dancing, and playing for kids age 7 to 14.

The camp will continue through mid-June and start up again in mid-September. The daily camp offerings will include: Circus arts, taught by San Francisco School of Circus Arts; Chinese acrobatics (optional at extra cost); acting games and theater practice; outdoor sports; singing training; and beginning ballroom dancing taught by Alexis of S.F. Ballroom Dance School.

Students and fun lovers may register for any individual activity or for the whole camp.

Contact the JMCA at 883-7023 or the manager at 883-7007 for a faxed application, or check the website at www.juliamorgan.org and print out an application.

Berkeley Bay Festival

Where can you find one place to learn all about Bay Area coastal and marine nature centers, exciting family outings and great summer programs? At the Berkeley Bay Festival, a free annual special event on Saturday April 10.

Have fun and learn to help keep our environment clean and safe for future generations.

You can collect information on programs for your weekend and summer planning. Children will love touching and learning about the live animals and participating in the educational activities provided by over 40 exhibitors from environmental agencies. You can also sail for free. Sailboat riders offered by the Cal Sailing Club and Cal Adventures. Children 5 to 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Sign-ups begin at 1 p.m. Wear warm waterproof

See EVENTS, Page C4

Screening of films from all over the world

Thirty features and more than 30 short films from 27 nations will be shown at Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley as part of the 42nd San Francisco International Film Festival. PFA festival screenings begin Thursday, April 22 and continue through Thursday, May 6, presenting films from Europe, Asia, Africa, and North America.

Among many highlights of the screenings at PFA, which emphasize films that are not commercially distributed in the U.S., are new films by such renowned filmmakers as Alain Resnais, Theo Angelopoulos, Manoel de Oliveira, Aki Kaurismaki,

Johan van der Keuken, Arturo Ripstein and Emir Kusturica. PFA screenings will also present works by first-time feature directors and by talented film veterans whose works are infrequently seen in this country. PFA screenings offer dramas, comedies, documentaries, animation, experimental works, short films and videos, and programs for children, teens, and families.

PFA Festival screenings will be presented in the George Gund Theater and Pacific Film Archive, located just south of the University of California campus, at 2625 Durant Avenue (one-half block west of College

Avenue), Berkeley. General admission to programs at PFA is \$9 per program; advance tickets for PFA screenings only are on sale at the PFA Box Office, or can be charged to a major credit card by telephoning (510) 642-5249.

Tickets for screenings at PFA and at all other Festival venues can be purchased at the SFIFF Box Office in the lobby of the AMC Kabuki 8 Theater in San Francisco; on the Festival website, at www.sfiiff.org; by telephoning 1-888-EMPTIXS; or at electronic kiosks located in a number of Bay Area Safeway supermarkets.

For recorded Film Festival information, please phone (415) 931-FILM.

Many PFA screenings will include in-person appearances by filmmakers, who will discuss their work with the audience. Exact travel schedules are not known at this time; a recorded message with the latest information about in-person appearances can be heard by calling (510) 642-1124, 24 hours. Brief descriptions of PFA's programs follow, and a list of film titles, with dates and times of PFA screenings, is attached. For additional information on PFA Festival programs, call (510) 642-1412.

Van der Keuken's photography, films on exhibit



JOHAN VAN DER KEUKEN

"JAIPUR/RAJASTAN/INDIA (from afternoon to nightfall)," is on display at the UC-Berkeley Art Museum's presentation "One Eye at the Camera, the Other on the World: Photographs by Johan van der Keuken" a selection of van der Keuken's photographs from series that are closely linked to his documentary films.

The UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive are presenting an exhibition of work by internationally acclaimed photographer and filmmaker Johan van der Keuken.

"One Eye at the Camera, the Other on the World: Photographs by Johan van der Keuken" presents a selection of van der Keuken's photographs from series that are closely linked to his documentary films.

The exhibition, which opened in the museum's Theater Gallery on March 20, will be van der Keuken's first in the United States, and coincides with a Bay Area-wide tribute to the artist that includes screenings and exhibits at the Pacific Film Archive, the San Francisco International Film Festival, the San Francisco Cinematheque, and the Robert Koch Gallery. Van der Keuken's work is especially suited for exhibition at the UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, the only Bay Area institution that presents ongoing series of both art and film within the one venue.

Johan van der Keuken started taking photographs as a young child, at the encouragement of his grandfather. In 1955, at age 17, he published his first book, "We Are Seventeen," which featured portraits of his fellow high school students in Amsterdam. This book led to a fellowship to study at the prestigious IDHEC film school in Paris, which he attended from 1956 to 1958, during which time he published a second book, "Behind Glass."

After graduation, van der Keuken embarked on what would become a long and prolific career as both a filmmaker and photographer. In both still and moving pictures, van der Keuken's overriding interest is in the stories of ordinary people. The exhibit presents images that are characterized by the physical and psychological intensity of his vision. Many of the photographs in this exhibition are directly linked to his very personal documentary films, including the street scenes from Jaipur, India, and a montage of Sarajevo. Other images featured include portraits of two blind children, and photographs of laborers in San Roque, Spain.

Van der Keuken has been honored as a photographer both in his own country and abroad, including

See ARTIST, Page C4

Schedule of screenings at Pacific Film Archive

Films set for viewing Thursday, April 22 through Thursday, May 6

Thursday, April 22

7 p.m.: "Johan van der Keuken: Early Shorts" (NA Moment of Silence (1963); Beppie (1965); Herman Slobbe/Blind Child 2 (1966); Big Ben/Ben Webster in Europe (1967)). (All produced in The Netherlands).

9:30 p.m.: The Terrorist Santosh Sivan (India, 1998)

Friday, April 23

7 p.m.: Anxiety Manoel de Oliveira (Inquietude, Portugal, 1998) 9:30 p.m.: The Wounds Srdjan Dragojevic (Rane, Yugoslavia, 1998)

Saturday, April 24

3:30 p.m.: My Father's Dragon Masami Hata (Elmer no boken, Japan, 1997) 7 p.m.: Barrio Fernando Leon de Aranoa (Spain, 1998)

9:15 p.m.: Black Cat, White Cat Emir Kusturica (Chat nok chat blanc, France, 1998)

Sunday, April 25

3 p.m.: Hathi, Philippe Gautier (Canada, 1998)

5:30 p.m.: From Saturday to Sunday, Gustav Machaty (Ze Soboty na Nedeli, Czechoslovakia, 1931)

7:30 p.m.: Same Old Song, Alain Resnais (On connaît la chanson, France, 1997)

Monday, April 26

7 p.m.: Negative Space, Chris Petit (U.K., 1999). With short films by Petit Radio On (Remix) (U.K., 1998) and Surveillance (U.K., 1993).

9 p.m.: Xiao Wu, Jia Zhang Ke (China/Hong Kong, 1997)

See SCREENINGS, Page C4

Berkeley Opera presents rarely performed 'Undine'

Berkeley Opera continues its 20th anniversary season with a concert version of E.T.A. Hoffmann's rarely performed opera, "Undine."

Performances will be at Berkeley's Julia Morgan Theater on April 16 and 17 at 8 p.m. and April 18 at 2 p.m. The opera will be sung in German with an English narration.

The cast for Hoffman's opera about a water sprite's love for a mortal (a variation on the popular 'Little Mermaid' tale) features Christina Nuki in the title role, and includes Paula Goodman, Diana Smith, Michael Rogers,

Macatee Hollie and Richard Goodman. The narrator is Charles Shere. Berkeley Opera Artistic Director Jonathan Khuner conducts, and the Berkeley Opera Chorus is directed by Lee Escandon.

According to Artistic Director Jonathan Khuner, "Hoffmann's work was one of the most important influences on romantic composers and this year — 200 years from the turn of Classicism to the century of Romanticism — we celebrate with an in-depth look at Hoffmann and his idea that music should express a hidden

reality, transforming everyday perceptions into a spiritual communion."

Hoffmann is of course better known as a writer of fantastical tales (it was one of his stories that inspired the Nutcracker ballet) and as the central figure of Offenbach's opera, The Tales of Hoffmann (which will be staged by Berkeley Opera July 17-August 1).

With a libretto by the composer based on Friedrich la Motte Fouque's fairytale, "Undine" is recognized as Hoffmann's musical masterpiece. An enormous success at its 1816 premiere

in Berlin, it was one of the most important operas of its day, epitomizing the post-Napoleonic German Romantic spirit.

Tickets for Undine are available by calling the Willows Theater Box Office at (925) 798-1300. They are priced at \$23 general, \$18 seniors, and \$15 youth (17 and under).

Student rush tickets are available at \$10 the night of the performance. Julia Morgan Theater is located at 2640 College Ave. at Derby and is easily reached from the Ashby and Rockridge BART stations.

REUNIONS

Markeley High School, Class of 1979, is holding its 20-year reunion on Saturday, Sept. 18, at Scott's Restaurant in Oakland. Contact Great Reunions at 1-714-937-5000 or 1-800-655-7971.

Cerrito High School, Class of 1979, is organizing its 20-year reunion for Saturday, Oct. 23, at the Concorde Hotel. Contact Great Reunions at 1-714-937-5000 or 1-800-655-7971.

Marquette High School, Class of 1979, is searching for alumni for its 20-year reunion, which is scheduled for July 24-25, 1999, in the Walnut Creek area. Contact Ellie Kessler, reunion committee coordinator, at 1-916-933-1826, or e-mail at ellie@reunions.com.

gmeredit@sonic.net.

China-Burma-India Veterans Association is organizing its 52nd annual reunion for Sept. 1-8 in Cincinnati, Ohio. For information, contact Melvin McMullen, 120 W. 49th St., San Bernardino (92407-3202).

USS Maddox destroyer crew members are planning a reunion for Sept. 8-12 in Norfolk, Va. Contact Cliff Gillespie at 1-714-960-5283 for more information.

Ygnacio Valley High School, Class of 1979, is holding its 20-year reunion on Saturday, Sept. 25, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Walnut Creek. Contact Reunion Masters at 1-408-448-7888 or 1-800-359-7888.

Polytechnic High School, classes of fall 1948, spring 1949 and fall 1949, in San Francisco is planning its 50-year anniversary for October. For information, contact Dick and Marylou (Emerson) Ellis at 1-925-672-4753.

San Lorenzo Valley High School, Class of 1989, is organizing its 10-year reunion.

To pass along updated information of classmates, call or fax Jenni (Markley) Allen at 1-925-754-7231, or e-mail at Callen3079@aol.com.

Alameda High School, Class of 1979, is making preparations for its 20-year reunion. To help locate class members or to update address information, call Nancy Wiese Slagle at 1-510-889-

8487, or Cindy Zecher at 1-510-523-7361.

Westlake Junior High School, Classes of 1930-35, will hold a luncheon reunion on May 6 at the Orinda Country Club. A no-host social hour begins at 11:30 p.m. followed by lunch at 1 p.m. For reservations, call Betsey Anchor Young at 1-925-283-1836, or Jane Hahn Glazier at 1-925-933-5919.

George Washington High School, Class of 1944, in San Francisco is holding its 55-year reunion on Saturday, Oct. 2, at the Embassy Suites at the San Francisco International Airport. Contact Barbara Levey at 1-415-884-2330.

Arroyo High School, Class of

1979, of San Lorenzo is holding its 20-year reunion on Saturday, May 22, at the Sheraton Hotel in Pleasanton. Contact Reunion Masters at 1-408-448-7888 or 1-800-359-7888.

Newark Memorial High School, Class of 1989, is planning its 10-year reunion for Saturday, Aug. 7, at the Holiday Inn San Jose. Contact Great Reunions at 1-714-937-5000 or 1-800-655-7971.

Skylark High School, Class of 1979, is planning its 20-year reunion for Saturday, Nov. 20, at the Holiday Inn-Bay Bridge in Emeryville. Contact Great Reunions at 1-714-937-5000 or 1-800-655-7971.

If your class is having a reunion send it to Hill Newspapers at 5707 Redwood Road, Oakland, 94619 or fax it to (510) 339-4066.

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Dining & Entertainment

Advertising Feature

Julia Morgan
THEATRE

April 11, 18, 30 pm & 3 pm

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Julia Morgan Theater

2640 College Ave.
Berkeley - (510) 883-7038

Watch for fantastic kids events at the Julia Morgan Theater in April! Sundays, April 4, 11, and 18, 1:30 and 3:00 p.m., UNCLE IRA the singing storyteller presents great songs and entertainment for kids. Tickets are \$7 adults, \$5 kids, and under 3 free!

On Sunday, April 25, The Blue Fairy flits over from Fairyland for a 2 p.m. performance.

Also, every Saturday starting April 3, the Julia Morgan Center offers Theatre Rats Saturday Camp. Kids age 6 1/2 to 13 can participate in singing, dancing, acting, swimming, and having fun! Prices are \$35 for one day or \$120 for four sessions.

On April 17, watch for our camp fair presenting information on a variety of summer camp programs all over Berkeley.

Coming this summer are two full-week Theatre Rats sessions. For more information on these or other Julia Morgan Theatre shows call (510) 84-JULIA.

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THE MONTCLARION • THE PIEDMONT • THE BERKELEY VOICE • THE JOURNAL • THE ALAMEDA JOURNAL • FAMILY FAIR

Calendar

Submissions to Goings on About Town must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

"The Buddy Club," presents The Juggling Tornado juggling pins, knives, bowling balls and even rubber chickens, while riding a 6-foot unicycle. Singer Mary Spalding, will also appear. The shows are targeted for kids two through 10 and their parents. The performance takes place Sunday, April 11, 11 a.m. to noon at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marion Ave. In Albany. Tickets are \$6, under 2 free. For more information call 652-SHOW.

The UC-Berkeley Graduate School of Education and UC-Berkeley Cal Student Store, presents the eighth annual Celebration of Children's Literature on Saturday, April 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Tolman Hall, corner of Hearst and LeConte on the Berkeley campus. Activities for children include: "Make Your Own Book," workshop, for school-age kids; storytelling for kids, with Steven Henegar (11 a.m. to noon); Celia Correa (2 to 3 p.m.) and Marjio (3 to 4 p.m.); and concert and sing-along (1 to 2 p.m.) with folk singer Jose-Luis Orozco. There will be additional book-signings and workshops by writers, authors and illustrators. For more information call 642-0137.

The Downtown Berkeley YMCA is celebrating "Kids Spring Fling at the YMCA." Kids will have the opportunity to participate in Splash, a program which teaches kids and families to be safer in and around the water. Healthy Kids Day, taking place on Friday, April 9 from 6 to 9 p.m. is free to the public and aimed at families spending fun time together while improving their health. Various day camps, aimed at teaching kids the value of honesty, caring, respect, and responsibility are also available. For more information on how to register for the various programs call 848-9622

Classes

The North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst, sponsors a Travis Museum and Lunch at the Conference Center. Ride on train at Western Railroad Museum and see the wildflowers at the Jepson Natural Preserve, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$35. Details: call 644-6107.

La Clinica de LaRaza will celebrate the opening of its newly refurbished Dental Clinic and will dedicate its re-

cently restored mural on Thursday, April 15. The mural dedication ceremony will take place at 4 p.m. and the dental reception will immediately follow. The event will be held at LaClinica's Dental Clinic, 3050 East 16th St. For more information contact Angela Mazaris at La Clinica, 535-4218.

Dance and Fitness Classes open to all in flamenco, Afro-Brazilian, belly-dance, salsa, swing, ballroom, tap, theatre dance, yoga, chi gung, tai chi, aikido, pilates-based body conditioning and more at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Drop in fees: \$8-10. Information: 848-6370.

The City of El Cerrito is continuing its lap and water aerobics swim schedule through April 30. Call 215-4376 for schedule, prices and additional information.

Portraits and Places, watercolors by Susan Cornelis exhibit will continue through May 17 at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Details: 524-9283.

Let's Swing and Jitterbug; 7 p.m. beginning classes, 8 p.m. intermediate; four-week dance classes beginning the first Tuesday of the month; Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley; Diana Castillo, 549-3591; \$40 for four classes.

Vista College. Through May 24; "American Fiction: 1945 to the Present" with Dr. Yehudit Goldfarb; \$36 All classes located on the UC-Berkeley campus; 841-8860.

Health

YWCA Health and Community Education; drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

Community

The North Berkeley Senior Center has the following events this week: April 9, Celebration of the Yiddish Language with North Berkeley Yiddish Senior Group, 1 p.m. 1901 Hearst/MLK, Jr. Way. Information: 644-6107.

Christmas in April needs volunteers for a workday in Albany, Berkeley and Emeryville on April 24. Supplies are also needed. All contributions are tax deductible. Information: 644-8980.

Friends of Albany Hills will hold its monthly urban forest restoration project on Saturday, April 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meet at the Taft Street turnaround on top of Albany Hill. Wear long sleeve, work gloves, long pants, socks, sturdy shoes. Learn to differentiate native and exotic vegetation from UC botanist Bar-

bara Erter. For information call Carole Fitzgerald at 528-3236 or Hortensia Chang at 526-8369.

The Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave., presents its next volunteer session on April 10-18. Speakers will present topics on the biology of cancer, western and complementary therapies, environmental linkings, caregiving and grief. For more information call 548-9272.

The City of El Cerrito is accepting job applications for 1999 Summer Employment, day camp and pool staff positions. Ages 15 plus (must have job permit if under 18) Ages 12 + for volunteers. Applications may be picked up at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information call 215-4370.

"Work Buddies"; volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nanette Lipton, 644-8292.

Psychic Healing clinic; 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura cleansing, stress relief; 1-800-642-9355.

SMART project; the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

New Beginnings - a chemical dependency treatment program at Doctors Medical Center in Pinole - offers community support group information, free assessments, education and counselors who can talk about drug and alcohol dependency treatment and prevention. Call 724-1520 for information.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

English-in-Action lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week. YWCA, at Berkeley Call 843-9716.

Women's Daytime Drop-In Center in Berkeley, serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.



'THE HONEYMOON KILLERS,' will be shown tonight and Saturday at 7:15 p.m. at the Fine Arts Center on Shattuck Avenue. For more information call 848-1143.

Exhibits

Random Works of Art, 1999. Fourth Annual multimedia exhibit by eight East Bay women artists, through May 23. Reception: April 18, 2-5 p.m. Alta Bates Gallery, 3001 Colby St., Berkeley.

Traywick Gallery, 1316 10th St., announces "Sequences" an exhibition featuring a portfolio of print formatted by 29 internationally-known artists and published by Edition Schellman of New York and Munich. Call Katrina Traywick at 521-1274 for more information.

New Pieces Gallery presents a list of artists for the year 1999. Located on Solano Avenue, New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

A New Leaf Gallery, 1286 Gilman St., is featuring "Passages," 12 sculptures explore Explicit or Metaphorical Pas-

sages. The exhibit will run through April 18. Hours are Wednesday, through Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Call 525-7621 for details.

The East Bay Women Artists present an exhibit "The Creative Edge" through April 25. Gallery hours are Monday through Sunday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. The exhibit takes place at Royal Ground Gallery, 2058 Mountain Boulevard. Details call 339-0348.

The Albany Arts Committee presents "Portraits and Places," watercolors by Susan Cornelis, on exhibit through May 17, at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave. Details: call 524-9283.

East Bay Women Artists present an exhibit "The Creative Edge" through April 25 at the Royal Ground Gallery, 2058 Mountain Blvd. Gallery hours are Monday through Sunday 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Literary Events

"Strong Women : Writers and Heroes of American Literature"; 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. every Thursday; free course in the Berke-

ley Adult School Older Adults Program. Helen Ripper Wheeler, instructor at Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst, will be the guest speaker. Call 848-9622 for more information.

Meetings

City Commons Club, Great Discussions Series continues on April 10, artist Karl Kasten, presenting a illustrated talk about "Gauguin, Picasso and Printmaker." The social hour begins at 11:15 a.m. in the Westwood Room. Luncheon will be served at 11:45 a.m. Tickets are \$10.75 to \$12.25. Speaker starts promptly at 12:30 p.m. \$1 admission with the Club is at 2315 Durant Ave. Student admission free. Details: 848-3533.

Toastmasters on Campus will meet second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 8:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-3533.

See CALENDAR, Page 6

HEALTH & FITNESS

Advertising Feature



Natural Skin Care... Notes From Healthy Life Vitamins

by Dale Bhar, owner

The natural protective layer of your body, the skin, is continually subjected to stress. Environmental, physical and psychological influences as well as the natural aging process causes this stress. To enable the exposed and particularly sensitive skin of the face, neck, décolleté and hands to remain beautiful, extra care and protection are necessary. Accomplish this through natural skin care products.

Natural skin care products such as Anne Marie Borling, from Germany and Zia Cosmetics improve the functions of the skin as well as help with natural regeneration of skin cells. They do this by providing valuable botanical oils and other naturally produced substances to nourish and protect the skin. Using time-proven methods, they are produced without harm to animals and the environment.

Each individual is unique; this is reflected in your skin care type. To recognize your skin type and identify the skin care products appropriate for you, refer to Angela Downe at Healthy Life Vitamins. She is available to answer your questions Saturdays from 11 to 3 p.m. Angela specializes in the Anne Marie Borling skin care line and Zia Cosmetics. Healthy Life Vitamins, 6130 Medau Place, Oakland, (510) 338-0667



Osteoporosis

by Dr. Laura VanHarn

Hi! It is me again... Dr. Laura VanHarn, your local exercise physiologist, taking time out from a busy day to remind you of the virtues of cautious exercise and fitness training... especially when it comes to what I call the "aging diseases" arthritis and osteoporosis.

In both of these diseases, the body gradually deteriorates, becoming fragile and vulnerable to falling and fracture. These disorders usually strike as one ages and women are more often the victim than men. In osteoporosis alone, between seven and eight million Americans have the disease, while nearly three times that many are at risk.

There are many treatments and strategies to combat these diseases. Recently, the Food and Drug Administration has expounded several promising new drug treatments but nothing presently available is sufficient to treat these diseases alone. According to Robert Recker MD, PhD of the Osteoporosis Research Center at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, "other important factors should not be neglected." "Strength training exercises and eating a proper diet, rich in calcium, are equally as important as any other therapy."

This is where we come in. Here at the Phytiness Connection, located in the heart of Montclair on La Salle Street, we provide safe and careful exercises that are proven to be effective at building muscle and bone mass.

As the Director of the Phytiness Connection, my clients follow an exercise program which is especially designed for each individual. The common goals are to build stronger muscles and bones so that the body can function with good posture and suppleness. This is all done in a clean, comfortable, semi-private atmosphere. Our clients enjoy their weekly exercise sessions here under guidance and supervision. We are not a health and fitness club and we do not offer expensive personal training.

If you feel you are a candidate for physical self-improvement, give me a call to arrange for a free consultation. It could be a most important step toward better health for you and you may join the ranks of others who have achieved this with me.

REMEMBER!! It's your body... It's your only body. Exercise, eat sensibly and live will be better each year.

510-339-6546
The Phytiness Connection
6116 La Salle Ave. Oakland, CA
We are now accepting a limited enrollment



As I See It...

by Dr. Jason A. Deitch

Our health care system here in America is evolving at a very rapid pace. Recent headlines in USA Today are reporting that the nation is embracing alternative medicine. Current research indicates that alternative medicine is no longer alternative because more people are using non-traditional medical care than traditional medical care. While scientists and skeptics are still trying to figure out why different healing methods work, there is little doubt that somehow they do. When somebody has experienced a result for themselves it is proven for that person. It worked for them. Even when any method is "proven" it still does not guarantee how it will work for you until you have the actual experience.

Chiropractic care is the most popular alternative medical profession in the world. One reason is because Doctors of Chiropractic are doctors that are not focused on giving drugs, but on restoring our body's inherent ability to heal itself. Millions of people of all ages are experiencing the incredible healing power that comes from within. People are able to live healthier and happier lives by learning a simple health care philosophy and taking regular care of themselves. Are you ready to make a significant improvement in the quality of your life?

"I've only been going a short time, but already I am experiencing the ability to cut back on my pain killers", says one patient. "I am reconnecting with my inner support system of trust, compassion and healing," says another. "The next morning was the first I woke up without pain in several years."

Dr. Jason Deitch is a Doctor of Chiropractic in private practice in the beautiful Oakland Hills. He is the Club Chiropractor for 24 Hour Fitness. You can listen to Dr. Jason on his weekly radio show "Health Talk" on 1220 am Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. He co-founded the Bay Area Doctors of Chiropractic and is available for corporate or group presentations on natural health and wellness. For more information or to make an appointment call 510-531-5433 or e-mail drjason@mindspring.com.

Aikido Institute of Oakland

Aikido is Healthy for Mind and Body

Aikido is a Japanese martial art that was established in the 1920's. An integration of his spiritual practice and his years of martial arts training, the founder created Aikido to unify all people into one world family.

Aikido uses techniques that allow one to move with one's opponent, rather than to absorb the opponent's force. Through the repetition of spiral movements emanating from a strong, centered base, Aikidists defend themselves by redirecting incoming attacks. This practice develops one's stamina, understanding of ki (energy), and conflict resolution skills. The physical movements, coupled with an awareness of one's opposition (be that a person, or a physical/emotional obstacle), helps one to meet conflict with an open mind and sincere intentions.

The Aikido Institute of Oakland has provided instruction on these principles for almost thirty years. On April 24, 1999, we invite the public to a free

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demonstration from 12 - 12:30 p.m. This event will highlight the techniques taught at the Aikido Institute. Please join us at 5036 Telegraph Ave.

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RESULTS

When it comes to pain or illness, many of us are accustomed to taking medication. In chiropractic health care we believe that the secret to good health lies within your body, not your medicine cabinet. Did you know that from birth and throughout your life, your body has the ability to make every chemical it will ever need? Chiropractors focus on your spine. This is because the spine houses the spinal cord and spinal nerves. Nerves carry vital information between the control centers in the brain and all other parts of the body. When a spine is misaligned, it causes the body that area to stop working properly, which affects your health. If you are one of the thousands of people who needlessly because of related problems, there's a drug in the world that will make you better. You've heard of it, but you've never heard of it. It's called chiropractic. It's the only natural way to temporarily cover up the symptoms of your problem. You've heard of it, but you've never heard of it. It's called chiropractic. It's the only natural way to temporarily cover up the symptoms of your problem.

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Dr. Jason A. Deitch 5550 Redwood Road Oakland
Hours: Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9:30-11:30, 4:30-7; Tues. & Sat. by appointment

Calendar

FROM PAGE C6

The Berkeley Communicators

Toastmasters Club meet the first and second Wednesday of the month from 7:15 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 869-8692.

Danny Bensky, host of Pacific Radio's "Sunday Salon," will interview Daniel Singer, European correspondent on Saturday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m. The interview will take place at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School 1781 Rose St., North Berkeley. Tickets are \$10 advance, \$15 door. For information call 548-0542.

Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together at Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call 869-2847 for details.

Healing and Healing. Voices of Healing Story Circles. Spiritually oriented group for people living with life-threatening illness. Meets second Wednesday of each month in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for information.

Toastmasters meet every Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m., 700 Heinz Avenue, Call 869-6702.

Berkeley Gray Panther's Education Committee meets on Monday, March 15 at 2:30 p.m. at 1403 Addison St. Call 848-9696.

Health Toastmasters Club meets every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 p.m. to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

Alignment 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Monday, April 12, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships. Feldenkrais Center, 830 Carroll Way, Berkeley. (415) 461-5337; \$20.

Bates Support Groups - Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

Writers Anonymous, a 12 step program providing free aid for those with writing problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday 10:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 901 Nevin (aka Elevator C on third floor). For further information, call 528-2322.

Albany Chapter meets at 980 Starling St. at Albany; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-2532.

Metaphysical Toastmasters, meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 102-1645.

Toastmasters, noon - 1 p.m. Tuesdays; and up and say what you mean; practice on the toastmasters; 700 Heinz Ave., Berkeley, 869-6702.

Health Toastmasters Club meets every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Thursday of the month from 12:10 p.m. to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building at 2151 Berkeley Way. Call 649-7750.

Bates Rehabilitation Center and Albany Chapter sponsors a free monthly support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maternity Audition at Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Details: 204-4503.

Healing Story Circles, a spiritually oriented healing group for people living with life-threatening illnesses, meets second Wednesday of each month in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for information.

Women-Writers and Heroes of African Literature meet on Thursdays from 10 p.m. to 11:15 p.m. at the North Berkeley Center, 1911 Hearst. This is a free course in the Berkeley Adult School Older Adult Program. For additional information call 548-2970.

MusicSources presents Parisian Harpist-Beatrice Berstel, prize winner in 1998 and Paris international competi-

tions, performing works of two composers who worked in Paris, Couperin and Rameau, and one who was inspired by the French, J.S. Bach. The performances take place Sunday, April 11 at 5 p.m. MusicSources is located at 1000 The Alameda. For reservations call 528-1685. Tickets are General \$18, \$15 seniors/students.

The Trinity Chapel, 2320 Dana St., presents the Collegium Musicum of the University of California at Berkeley with Kate van Orden and Anthony Martin, directors. The performance is vocal and instrumental music of the 17th and 18th centuries including Concert Grossi by Arcangelo Corelli. Admission is by donation; no one will be turned away for lack of the suggested donation price of \$10 and \$8/students/seniors/handicapped. Details: 549-3844.

Kabbalat Shabbat. The Songs of Songs Minyan come together for a community Kabbalat Shabbat service at 7:30 p.m. one Friday, every month for egalitarian Jewish spiritual practice. The service focuses on the rich content of Jewish sacred music, poetry and prayer from around the world. The Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center is located at 1414 Walnut Street. Details: 848-0737.

"Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

Outdoors

UC-Berkeley Botanical Garden. Enjoy a self-guided tour that highlights fiber and dye plants through out the garden. The exhibit is open until April 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day. The tour is free with garden admission. Call 643-2755 for more information.

East Bay Regional Parks Botanical Garden Tilden Park, presents regular tours, seven days a week. Week days 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, and Sundays 2 p.m. Special tours by appointment. Call 641-4732. For a schedule of upcoming classes call 925-820-1021.

Support

Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group. Andy Baxter, Certified Strength Trainer, New Angle Fitness will discuss Functional Strengthening & Arthritis. April 13, 1-2:30 p.m. Information: 204-4503.

Stroke Support Group for Stroke survivors, their families and friends. No advance reservations required. Meets the first Tuesday of each month, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Matly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way.

Lecture/Workshop

Reach for Learning, the Bay Area Learning Disability Foundation, is sponsoring a lecture "Mind, Memory and Learning" on Wednesday, April 21 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. For additional information and reservations call 524-6455. Tickets are on a sliding scale donation at the door, from \$5 per student/parent up to \$25.

Religion

A celebratory evening of meditation and chanting with spiritual leader Sri Sri (three shree) Ravi Shankar, from southern India will take place at St. John's Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, April 27 at 7 p.m. Cankar has addressed the United Nations, chaired the International Conference of Religions in Kyoto, Japan, and is the founder and inspiration of many charitable foundations around the world. Suggested donation is \$10. All proceeds benefit the Art of Living Foundation, a non-profit educational and charitable organization. St. John's Presbyterian Church is at 2727 College Ave. For further information call the Oakland Art of Living office at 654-3439.

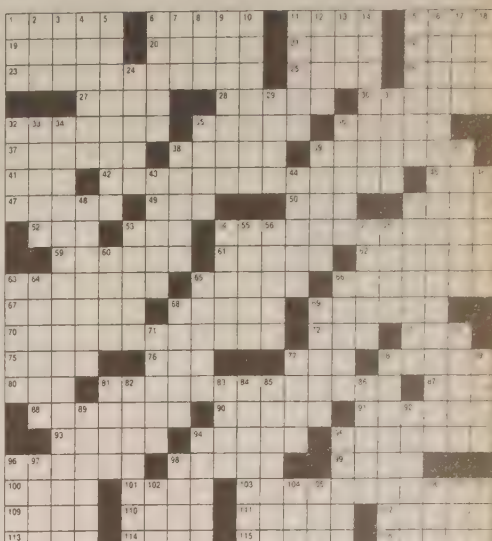
The Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1924 Cedar, fea-

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE

THAT WOMAN

BY RICHARD SILVESTRI / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| ACROSS | DOWN | DOWN | DOWN |
| 1 Unkind nickname | 50 Radial need | 95 Tied up at the marina | 13 Fatima's husband |
| 6 "Hey —" (1963 pop hit) | 51 Something to pick | 96 Sluggish souvenir | 14 Trucker's approval |
| 11 Scrap | 52 Geometric combining form | 98 Opposite of dimin. | 15 Sick on |
| 15 Big do | 53 Chief | 99 Third of a Latin trio | 16 The plume that's mightier than the sword? |
| 19 Word from a bird | 54 Bottom bottom line? | 100 Bumper sticker starter | 17 Commuter line |
| 20 Matching felony? | 59 Photographers' concerns | 101 Continental prefix | 18 European air hub |
| 21 Decathlete's need | 61 Mixed bags | 103 If 50% survives the heat, then ...? | 29 Anatomical sac |
| 22 Shed item | 62 Worries | 109 Natural impulse | 29 "Beau Geste" author |
| 23 Angel seeker? | 63 Complains sotto voce | 110 Tater | 31 Schleps |
| 25 Undo | 65 Second to none | 111 Digger of early TV's "The Life of Riley" | 32 Thirteenth-century starter |
| 26 Plane section | 66 Peanut candy | 112 Stand for Steen | 33 Rue Morgue murderer |
| 27 Overindulge | 67 Have an inspiration? | 113 "Calm down..." | 34 Kin to a kingfish? |
| 28 Urban alligator's home, they say | 68 Cappuccino cousin | 114 In billiards, what the English call English | 35 Stagehand |
| 30 Without qualification | 69 Norman native | 115 Where Irving is | 36 It's human |
| 32 He wrote "The Miser" | 70 Detect Dan's cologne? | 116 Expressionless | 38 Says the rosary |
| 35 Category | 72 — or — item | DOWN | 39 Acts skittish |
| 36 Slight amount | 73 Thick | 1 ABC and NBC over | 40 Defense mechanism |
| 37 Emulates Crosby | 75 "You Only Live Twice" scriptwriter | 2 A patient may say it | 41 Warm-ups |
| 38 Rid of the superfluous | 76 Get off the fence | 3 Swing site | 42 Resort lake |
| 39 Mumbled softly | 77 Deli order | 4 Director Leone of old westerns | 46 "The Divine Miss M" |
| 41 Smoker or sleeper | 78 Wall Street worry | 5 Plenty | 48 Set up for service |
| 42 Blue Grotto | 80 Lyrical lines | 6 Word processing command | 51 Master artist's studio |
| 45 Johnny — | 81 Undead in the water? | 7 Compass drawing | 53 Land in two pieces |
| 47 Unaffiliated record company | 87 Pontiac of song | 8 Canteen grp. | 54 Needle point? |
| 49 Criminal charge | 88 Fine furs | 9 Bungle | 55 Influential group |
| | 91 Exorcise | 10 Roof light | 57 Eva Duarte, after marriage |
| | 93 Concerto movement | 11 Toof | 58 Seeders make it |
| | 94 Take out membership | 12 Serve sake, e.g. | 60 Rat |
| | | | 63 Bungle |



- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 64 Like some beds | 78 Divides appropriately | 85 Rich fabric | 97 Kibbutz dance |
| 65 Smith or Page | 79 Dorn dweller | 86 Lacquer ingredient | 98 Dirty deposit |
| 66 "Sic semper tyranni" shout | 81 Hollywood crosser | 89 60's dance | 102 Reuters TV |
| 68 Arctic residents | 82 "The Blue Max" actress | 92 In addition | 104 Roman law |
| 69 Alluvial | 83 Surrealist Magritte | 94 Destroy by degrees | 105 Spring training state, abbr. |
| 71 Ladies' man | 84 You can't hear if you're out of it | 95 Bursts into tears | 106 "Beso" (1962 hit) |
| 74 Graceful | | 96 "Leaving Las Vegas" star | 107 Cartoon canine |
| 77 "Cinderella" event | | | 108 Underhanded |

Events

FROM PAGE C4

and information call 531-4231.

Prometheus Symphony Orchestra

The Prometheus Symphony Orchestra's next concert with featured soloist Dorinda Chase is Sunday, April 11, at 3 p.m. at Saint Ambrose Church, 1145 Gilman St. in Berkeley. Admission to the concert is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

Internet and artists' legal issues

ACCI Gallery presents a lecture "Internet Legal Issues for Visual Artists" by Guy Stilson of California Lawyers for the Arts on April 16 from 6:30-8 p.m.

ACCI Gallery is located at 1652 Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley.

Mr. Stilson, an attorney, will discuss points artists should know when using the web to promote, sell and distribute their work. Topics include legal points of copyright, sales and contracts, as well as business issues of web marketing and distribution.

The cost is \$5 for CLA and ACCI members and \$15 for the general public.

"Whose Millennium?"

"Whose Millennium? Theirs or Ours" is the topic of an interview of author Daniel Singer on Saturday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at King Middle School, 1781 Rose St. Singer is the European correspondent for "The National Magazine Whose Millennium?" is his forthcoming book from Monthly Review Press.

He is also author of "Prelude to Revolution (1970), "The Road to Gdansk (1981)" and "Is Socialism Doomed? The Meaning of Mitterrand (1988)."

He will be interviewed by Larry Bensky, host of Pacific Radio's national weekend current affairs program, "Sunday Salon." He writes news and analysis for numerous journals nationwide and has been Pacifica's public affairs correspondent for many years.

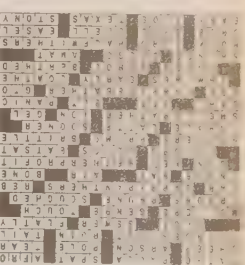
Tickets: \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Available at (East Bay) Black Oak, Cody's, Telegraph, Cody's 45h Street, Diesel, Pegasus/Solano, Pegasus/Shattuck, Pendragon, Walden Pond (SF) City Lights, and Modern Times.

This will benefit KPFA, Middle East Children's Alliance, Monthly Review Foundation, Democratic So-

cialists of America USA, Committees of Correspondence, Solidarity, and Nation Associates. Details: 548-0542.

Grandparents tales

Stagebridge presents "Keeping Quilt and Other Grandparents Tales" at 3 p.m. on Sunday at First Congregational Church, 2501 Harrison St., Oakland. This adaptation of Patricia Polacco's tale of cherishing a quilt passed down through four generations, features a cast ranging in age from nine to 75. An ice cream social follows each performance. \$8 general; \$4 children, includes play and social. Reservations: 444-4755.



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excel cond, 5-speed, all svc
records, 125K, \$5300/obo.
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HONDA 1997 CIVIC LX AT,
PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM
Cass, CC, tilt, extra clean,
low miles. STK#462370,
WAS: \$17,480; SALE:
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HONDA 1995 Odyssey AT,
PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM
Cass, CC, tilt, 45 low miles,
ABS. Rear AC STK#462370,
WAS: \$17,480; SALE:
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AC, 2-dr, silver, sunroof, 78K
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WAGON, auto, AC, PS,
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\$2800 510-482-3858

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AM/FM Cass, CC, tilt, Moon-
roof, 58K low miles, 8 cyl.
STK#306102, SALE: \$3,888
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KIA 1996 SAPHRA AT, PS,
AC, AM/FM Cass, 33K low
miles. STK#461531, WAS:
\$8,175 SALE: \$5,995
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ery LSE, 15K miles, gray w/
tan leather, CD, dual sun-
roof \$29,500. 510-339-8732

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Teal/ Camel, new tires, well
maint, garaged, \$12,500.
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Wagon, Blue/ tan lthr, ABS,
dual air-bags, sunroof. War-
ranty. 92K \$21,900.
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Garage Sales

Clip 'n go

ALAMEDA (BFI) 1000 Joet
Ln (off Oleander) Sat 4/10,
8-3 Miscellaneous house-
hold items

ALAMEDA- 2012 Buena
Vista Ave./ Chestnut, Sat,
9-1. Furn, misc household
items. A bunch of stuff
Priced right!

Happy Hunting Alameda-
1910-A Encinal, Tues
through Fri, 12-5. Sat, 11-6.
Must see! New arrivals!
Special sales!

ALAMEDA- 1537 91,
Charles St 9-2. Multi-
family. Furn, picture frames,
collectables, 15" truck tires/
rims, crating wood

ALAMEDA- 1309 Sherman
St, Sun 9-2. TV, cellphone,
picnic table, books, misc
household items

ALAMEDA- 1309 Sherman
St, Sun 9-2. TV, cellphone,
picnic table, books, misc
household items

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St, Sun 9-2. TV, cellphone,
picnic table, books, misc
household items

FOR SALE

601 Appliances

REFRIGERATORS: GE 16cu \$125, Hotpoint 12cu \$60, Whirlpool 12.5cu \$40; Kenmore W/D \$200, extra; long twin bed, like new, \$150 415-677-5935

MAYTAG Washer, new, \$250, Kenmore Washer \$145, Maytag set with gas dryer \$300, available delivery. Call 562-4696 or leave message

602 Art/Antiques

WANTED: Original Mission period furniture and furnishings. 510-865-7663

WANTED: Antique Guns-Swords and related items. 510-236-0539

BEDROOM SET, 7 piece, 1930's Virginia Maple, double bed, highboy, dresser, desk, 2 mirrors. Carved chipped design, \$1600/obo. 510-769-9504

603 Miscellaneous For Sale

AFFORDABLE! Masculine spaces. Double Depth Lawn Crypts, niches, plots. Will carry with 10% down. No credit check (510-874-8849 for appointment)

BICYCLES (used) \$200 up to Bianchi, Bridgestone, Cannondale, Fisher, Specialized, Trek, Schwinn. Exercise bikes. Berkeley's best selection. 2800 Telegraph near Ashby 510-411-2181

CLAREMONT Club: Save money. Gain flexibility, buy transferable membership. Best offer considered for immediate sale. 510-420-1424

COMPUTER system incs. printer, 17" monitor, desk, chair. Must see to appreciate. \$1,000. Don 510-769-9589

EXERCISE Equip. Hedge trimmer, China Svc for 12. Yard vac! blower. 510-339-2150

MARK MCWIRE and Thousands of other Misc. Cond Baseball Cards. Mostly 1980's and Early 1990's. Moving—must sell entire inventory. Excellent start-up cost \$225. Call 825-846-1317 or Page 925-674-5298

MONTCLAIR Swim Club family membership for sale, \$450 plus transfer fee. Contact Yuko 510-601-5745

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603 Miscellaneous For Sale

MONTCLAIR Swim Club Membership for sale, \$350 plus transfer fee. 510-601-5745

OAKLAND Raider ticket, \$1000 PFL sale for 1/2 price. Two or four 510-865-7767

PLAY IT AGAIN SPORTS: Wanted: Treadmills/bikes. Sale 50% off all bikes, boots, gloves, Alameda South Shore Center. 510-521-3833

SPA: Never used. Seats 6. Warranty, \$2550; 925-754-5214 or 510-539-5552

TWO cemetery plots, 1 cast-iron, 1 marker, 1 service. \$8000 510-262-9311

USED bricks, in good condition. Will give antique look to new structure. Call 510-891-9410 after 7:30pm; leave msg 510-727-4552 anytime

85 GALLON aquarium w/ equipment \$75, King size waterbed, heater/frame \$75; office desk w/ side buffet \$50 510-223-1028

605 Home Furnishings

15th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL: Buy 2 or more custom mini-couches this year and we will clean them free of charge next year. Call Marsh Interiors at 569-7540 for details

COUCH & Loveseat, Blue w/ Burgundy design, 5-6 yrs old \$250. Will del 510-769-7532

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WATERBED-King, Cenopy/mirrors \$900; Dresser \$400; Singer Sewing machine, w/ bit in table \$500; 231-1302 day; 521-5923 evenings

SOLID wood desk \$150, Rose fltr couch \$200, White chair and half w/ clemens \$150, Desk/cabinet \$125 510-339-2101

OAK Dining Rm Tble (42"x65", W/18" leaf), includes table pads and 6 chairs. \$600/ obo 510-482-3426

LIGHT Blue Queen-size sofa bed, exc cond, \$700 or best offer 510-962-3200

QUEEN bed \$65; Desk/chair \$45; Washing Machine, \$65; French Wrought Iron Candle stand \$350; NordicTrac \$125; 510-653-0894

BEAUTIFUL bed, pine, 4 poster, Queen, high and tall, \$800 510-652-4096

605 Home Furnishings

PASARAD Rug Company: Designer hand-knotted Rugs from Persian and other countries. Established 23 years. Hand-wash & restoration. Wholesale prices! 415-431-6177

QUEEN platform bed, 8 drawers, solid Oak, like new \$395/ obo. 510-339-6205 evenings

SOFABED, queen, dark blue/oxford stripe, 2 yrs old, excel cond. \$300. 925-253-3306

Entertainment Center w/ 2 matching detached bookcases, Scan. Designs, almost new, natl cherry finish, \$600. 925-253-3306

PLATFORM bed, headboard, six drawers, full-size, light Oak finish, matching nightstand, mattress/box spring included. \$225 510-540-8603 (eve), 415-382-2625 (day)

TABLE TOPS: glass 60" diameter 3/4" thick \$150; Green marble 51x27", 1/2" thick \$125. Call 510-848-6812

NICE maple drop leaf dining table w/ 4 chairs, 2 leaves \$550; showcases \$100 & up; roll top desk for van \$475; Glass top table w/ 4 chairs \$599; Rowe Juice Box, 200 selections \$200; glass top coffee & table \$125; Dinetto sets \$89 & up; Reducers \$59 & up; Single box spring & mattress \$59; Full size box spring & mattress \$139; Queen size box spring & mattress \$189; King size box spring & mattress \$199; 18ft boat, Martin tri-hull w/ 125hp Force motor, \$5000; 16ft Seeking boat w/ 50hp motor, \$3000. Plus tons of misc. We Buy and Sell

MILLHOLLAND'S Unclaimed Storage 2280 Giant Rd. San Pablo 510-233-8734

SECTIONAL couch, L-shaped, good condition, needs cleaned. Cream/gray. Iw women material plus matching ceramic lamp \$375/obo. 510-710-4411

AD To Place A Classified Ad Call 339-8777

607 Pets/Services

HOP-A-LONG animal Rescue: seeks tax deductible donations, serviceable crates, cages, leashes, collars, food, litter 510-653-7695

OAKLAND Raider Tickets: \$21, \$1000 for full season, 101 Row 25, Seats 3 and 4. Call 510-638-8251

608 Tickets/Travel

RESponsible family of 5 seeks 3 bed vacation home rental for July, Piedmont. Montclair, Call Claire Thurston (303)546-9304

RETIRED health care prof and adult son seek 1+ bdm or 2 bdm house, fric, Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda areas. 510-261-7452

703 Lofts: 1150 BERKELEY, newly remodeled, spacious liv/work loft. Centrally located on University Avenue. 986-9311

705 Sublets & Short Term: \$2500 MONTH: May-August, beaut. Montclair 3+ bdm/3+ ba. Sep-Oct family 4th bdm. Hottub, sunroom, level fen, garden, gourmet kit. Fully furn. W/ shop, park. 510-531-5002

706 Vacation Bed & Breakfast: RUSSIAN River, beachfront home. Great views, pet beach, fric, desk, sun porch, nr ocean. 510-524-3164

709 Alameda: \$600 NEWLY Remodeled, 1 bedroom, hardwood floors, fric, parking, coin laundry, no pets 510-522-5544

711 1 Bedroom: \$1000 SUNNY upper 2 bdm, in garden site 5-plex, hwd flrs, form dining, AEK, eat-in kit, cat okay 2251 Clinton Ave. 510-339-9825 ext 244

712 2 Bedrooms: \$1495 EDWARDIAN duplex. Hwd flrs, all appls, desk, near S.F. bus. Gold Coast. Beat 510-522-5209

713 3+ Bedrooms: \$1850 Beautiful Townhome. Ravenscroft, 4 bdm, 2 1/2 ba, 2 1/2 car garage, private patio, W/D, Fridge, pool, next to SF Bay, walk to beach. Close to shopping/trans. Call Jen 510-521-2108 (No Fee)

714 Albany & Kensington: ALBANY, Kensington El Cerrito: Studio, one, two, three bdm apts, flats, hses. Berkeley Connection, 845-7821

609 Miscellaneous Wanted

WANTED: An old toy train. Lionel, Marx, American Flyer. lves. 547-1278

WANTED: Crib, carseats, strollers, high-chairs, clothes, toys, etc. Pick-up available with large quantity. Cash paid, no consignment. Call 510-526-5437

Wanted To Buy: Coins & Jewelry & Diamonds. Scrap Gold & Sterling. ALBANY COIN EXCHANGE 1107 Solano Ave. Albany 526-1772 Mon-Fri, 10am-5pm

GOLD WANTED: For class rings, wedding bands, dental gold, etc. We buy coins, coin collections and stamp collections. Contact RON'S COINS, 10531 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito Call the rest—then call us—we pay the most. 525-3334 Open Sunday by Appt.

WANTED: Coin collections, watches, jewelry, etc. We pay ABSOLUTELY HIGHEST PRICES for nice coins, U.S. and foreign

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby notified that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Provided as a service by this newspaper, Inc. and the Oakland Association of REALTORS on behalf of REALTORS who are signatories on the Voluntary Affirmative Marketing Agreement.

702 Housing Wanted

LOCAL Builder/Remodeler: needs Cottage/s or sm hse w/ gar. Trade talents for rent reduction. Oakland, Berkeley, Hills area 510-530-4181

RESPONSIBLE family of 5 seeks 3 bed vacation home rental for July, Piedmont. Montclair, Call Claire Thurston (303)546-9304

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715 Berkeley

716 Studios

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\$1250 NORTH BERKELEY 1921 Francisco St. nr MEXIA, 2 bdm, 1 ba, fresh crt and paint, pool, prkg, Call 531-8000

\$1500 HILLS duplex, 2 ba, desk, view, yd. Atkinson Santa Barbara, #141282-B Homefinders 549-6450 Fee

\$695 EXTRA Clean North Oakland 1 bdm, upstairs. Close to BART/CCAC No pets. 510-772-2435

\$695 IVY Hill, freshly refurbished, new carpet, secure, large closets. 2430 8th Avenue. 510-272-9255; 510-452-0386

\$695 ONE Bdrm, deposit req'd. Prkg avail 733 Glen Street. 441 Grand Lake 510-923-3468

\$700 ONE bdm, Adams Point, Quiet, nr transp, bldg, gar 510-893-6650

\$710 NEW paint, central heat, underground prng, Adams Point, Berkeley, 12 unit bldg. 510-465-5313

720 Contra Costa

\$775 CONCORD, 1 bdm. Best deal! 1/2 month free! Under new management. Incldts heat. Upscale bldg in beautiful garden setting. Senior discount avail. 925-674-9593

\$721 El Cerrito & North: \$400 EL CERRITO am studio, nr BART 510-232-4131

\$895 NEWLY painted, carpeted 01 duplex, nr shopping/BART. Sorry no pets, n-on-smoking. 510-895-3584

721 El Cerrito & North

722 Emeryville

\$950 SPACIOUS 2 bd apt in 6 unit complex recently built. W/D, fric, pvt deck area. Walk to 1st St. (near BART) groceries/Target, etc. Min. 1 yr lease, 1st/Last and Sec. Dep. req'd. Apt. only. 925-634-7887 or 925-754-2478.

\$1100 6425 CENTRAL Ave., 2 bdm w/ Golden Gate vw, walk to El Cerrito BART. Call 525-0460.

724 Oakland & Piedmont

\$725 434 LEE St. 1 bdm, fric, paint, 1 blk to BART, hwy. Ave. shopping MUST SEE! Call 465-3943

\$725 IVY Hill, security building, freshly refurbished. Quiet, laundry. 2424 7th Ave. 452-0386

\$725 ROCKRIDGE 1 bdm apt, 1 block to BART, hwd floors, coin indry. 510-986-9311.

\$725 RUBIC Jr bdm, kitchenette, private entrance, Indry, security, enclosed yd, all units available 428 BART. 510-534-2679, eves

725 Studios

\$550 ADAMS Point, charming historic bldg, includes parking and prkg. 925-648-2046

\$575 MONTCLAIR hills studio (room) in-law. Cement/corran, canyon view, kitchenette, separate entrance 510-339-0786

\$600 SMALL studio, new k/b w/ carpet, Walk Rockledge BART. Units 01, 501 Forest 510-965-0300

\$725 STUDIO, Near Lake & BART. Liv. sunny, secure, quiet, indry No pets, street parking 510-634-9068

\$745 SQUEAKY clean Sunny, quiet, secure Lake Classic on Lenox near Grand Big kitch, immense closet Tiled ba, w/ window. Indry. Cabes Walk to BART. Sensitive mgmt. Call Alan 383-5468

\$795 LARGE Studio on Lake Merritt, hwd floors, eat-in, utility, din. separate. 510-832-3900

\$825 NORTH Oakland Studio Plus near Rockledge, BART 439 49th. Hdwds, apes, cat neg 547-1590.

\$895 PIEDMONT Pines fun studio w/ patio W/D, cable, off-street prkg. For appointment call 510-530-0613

726 1 Bedroom

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\$550 LAST 1 bdm, left, East Oakland 4-plex w/ prng New crt/ paint 510-836-1680

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\$675 SUNNY newly remodeled 1 bed apt. Near freeway, on-site parking, secure, postpaid gates, security patrol 7 days a wk. 510-261-3487

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\$675 SPACIOUS 1 bdm, nr Lake, new carpet/ paint/ appliances, Indry nr, gar. Convenient access w/ Intercom 333 Lester 347-2338

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Keeping up the Coliseum diamond is a year-round job

Rain dampens groundskeeper's opening night performance

By Corey Lyons

It is opening night, and the bespectacled man standing in shallow center field at Network Associates Coliseum is supposed to be admiring his garden.

After all, this is a glamorous event — it is a celebration of baseball's return from a six-month sabbatical. The Oakland A's are preparing to host the New York Yankees, the defending World Series champions.

But Clay Wood, Oakland's passionate fifth-year head groundskeeper, is holding his breath instead of a rake. He looks troubled.

See, opening night is supposed to be a showcase for Wood, too. More than 45,000 people here will scrutinize his product.

Instead, his garden is partially covered with equipment and is at the mercy of the weather gods.

Menacing gray clouds have seized the sky above the stadium; a giant silver tube crowds the outfield; a massive white tarp blankets the infield diamond.

Hardly an image he'd rather have you see: the green expanse of the outfield, the burnt-orange crust of the infield, the flawless white paint outlining the diamond.

At around 7 a.m., Wood raced to the stadium and helped roll a brand-new tarp over his precious infield dirt. Sheets of rain fell from the sky for hours afterwards — it would have turned the infield into a sticky swamp.

"The only concern I have is that if we get more steady rain, I can't take the tarp off," says Wood, looking grim. "With a clay infield, it can get sloppy in a hurry. We can't try to play through a rain storm."

For months, the 28-year-old groundskeeper has endured his own storm while diligently preparing for opening night. Monday, April 5, has burned on his mind since the season ended last October.

But in the annual cycle of major league gardeners, the bulk of the work is finished during the two months leading to game No. 1.

First pitch: 34 days

Wood, wearing a straw hat and a pair of khaki shorts, is pushing a rake near second base. The weather, a barometer of productivity for groundskeepers, is beautiful. It is a cloudless blue sky, and Wood seems relieved.

The crew is also five days ahead of schedule. Wood has 95 percent of his materials to complete the job. The entire outfield sod had been installed Friday, Feb. 26.

The diamond now needs cooperation from the weather, and at the moment Wood is receiving it.

Still, Wood keeps a stoic expression. The veteran keeper, having been deceived by Mother Nature before, remains circumspect.

"The infield is just now at the point where I can get some work done to it — and it's supposed to rain tonight," he says, looking into a blue sky.

The blades

Since baseball and football is played here, the Coliseum turf must be replaced every year.

So on Feb. 5 — exactly two months before opening night — Wood and his crew descended on the outfield with sod cutters.

The machine's L-shaped teeth slash the roots beneath the grass, which is piled into trucks and either donated to local high schools or discarded.

Wood gets his blades — 120,000 square feet of perennial ryegrass sod — from a company called West Coast Turf, which also provides sod for 3Com Park and Dodger Stadium.

West Coast Turf, the world's largest supplier of a popular warm-weather sod, called hybrid Bermudagrass, has four production facilities — three in California and one in Arizona.

Wood gets his grass from a production plant in Stevenson, a tiny farming town in Merced County. The plant there produces many variations of sod, most of which are used in the Southwest.

Perennial ryegrass — noted for its fine, dark blades — produces carpetlike turf which can be mowed down to a single inch.

"It's a cooler-season grass used in desert areas," Wood says. "The seeds germinate quickly, and are easy to grow in this type of climate."

The diamond

The infield dirt here is relatively



OAKLAND COLISEUM head groundskeeper Clay Wood pulls the tarp across the diamond to protect the infield from an April shower that dampened opening day for the A's.

sacred. Each October it is piled into dump trucks and transferred to a cool, dry place beneath the stadium.

And the dirt — all 300 yards of it — remains in hibernation while the Oakland Raiders finish their football season.

Which creates Wood's Large Annual Headache each February: building the infield diamond from scratch again.

The diamond is marked off and the dirt is dumped into place. It gets pampered there for the next eight months with water, rakes, brooms and other equipment.

The entire field, in fact, will be mowed and watered nearly every day.

Wood, hired to become the A's head keeper in September 1994, was thrown the gauntlet early.

Only weeks into his job, he had to clean up after Keith Richards. The Rolling Stones had rumbled into the Coliseum for a four-night gig, and Wood winced each night as the veteran rock band set up camp on his precious turf.

Fortunately, Wood and his green blades emerged unscathed. "It was a pretty mellow crowd," he says.

A month after that, Wood received more troubling news. The Raiders, who spent 22 years in Oakland before moving to Los Angeles in 1982, became the first professional sports team in history to return to a facility from which it came.

For Wood and his crew, it was like being told that an unruly distant uncle had suddenly invited himself over for dinner.

The \$129 million renovation and expansion work at the Coliseum — part of the deal that helped lure the Raiders back — forced the A's to play their first 1996 homestand in Las Vegas.

"For me, it was the biggest stressful challenge I've ever faced," Wood says.

To complete the renovation and expansion job, which included a 50-story structure with two air-conditioned lounges and luxury suites, workers had to start from the ground up.

In short, Wood watched in horror as his beloved outfield turf was piled into trucks and shuttled away.

"The field became their staging area for that first structure," Wood says. "In the meantime, we were trying to get ready for the 1996 season. Basically, they didn't give us a chance."

"We had mud from these trucks all over the field; every truck that came down hauled mud from its tires. The whole outfield was a disaster. The field was contaminated with mud, oil, diesel fuel, you name it."

Wood has always loved being on the diamond — it never mattered whether he had a rake or a catcher's mitt.

And his dogged determination is a family trademark.

"I've always felt that Clay was an overachiever. When he played ball,

he seemed to accomplish a lot more than what his natural athletic abilities would allow," says his father, Lowry Clay Wood, a heavy machinery manager in Portland, Ore.

Wood's baseball career flatlined after spending two injury-plagued years with Scottsdale Community College in Arizona. Three knee surgeries and an injured throwing shoulder left the struggling catcher with two options.

Another surgery — or retirement. "I knew it was my last hurrah," says Wood, who played his final game in 1990.

Seeking a more stable career, Wood transferred to Arizona State, where he earned a business degree in 1993.

Meanwhile, he had taken a part-time groundskeeping job in Scottsdale, where the A's held their

'The only concern I have is that if we get more steady rain, I can't take the tarp off. With a clay infield, it can get sloppy in a hurry. We can't try to play through a rain storm.'

Head Oakland Coliseum groundskeeper Clay Wood

spring training games. Wood loved being back on the field. He loved standing in the sun, and the sweet smell of freshly mowed blades.

Mark Razum, a former head groundskeeper for the A's, served as an early mentor to Wood. His key advice: The players are your customers.

"I told him that you've got 25 players, and you're not going to please them all," says Razum, now the head gardener for the Colorado Rockies. "You don't go up to them every day and ask them things. You'll get nit-picked."

"You find out what they want, and you get that field as consistent as you can, day in and day out."

First pitch: 20 days

Things are going well. The pitching mounds — three piles of portable earth — were shuttled from a chilly cellar deep inside the Coliseum to the diamond on March 10.

One is placed inside the diamond; the others are installed in each bullpen.

But the most important part of this day is finishing the infield's "top dressing."

Top dressing, or calcine clay, is a powdery ingredient and a fine complement to the infield dirt. It is packaged in 50-pound sacks, 30 or 40 of which Wood will sprinkle over his infield.

"It acts as a protective layer for our infield clay," he says. "We have to use a lot because the winds blow a lot of it away."

The remainder of this day is spent pampering the infield turf. Today it is mostly screen-dragged, a process by which wooden planks, fitted with 3/4-inch concrete nails, is slid across the surface.

"It scratches and keeps the top layer of the infield dirt loose," Wood says. "It keeps it nice and soft. It does good for the players and their cleats."

From his office beneath the center field stands, Wood orders a new \$3,500 tarp, a large sheet of canvas used to cover the diamond during heavy rains.

The old pockmarked tarp, used since 1995, would have ruined Wood's field during heavy rains.

"One little pinhole and it leaves a lot of water on that dirt, and then you have a big problem on your hands," he says.

First pitch: 6 days

It is another lovely day. A few puffy white clouds smear the sky's blue canvas.

Down on the field, two men are nail-dragging the infield; they follow each other around the diamond, pulling small rectangular slabs of wood across its surface.

"They've been dragging just like that for the past two weeks," says a Coliseum security guard, standing near an entrance tunnel with a

cup of coffee. He smiles at watching the tiny figures across the diamond below.

The field is pristine. It is so tightly manicured that it's hard to see a giant wall of cream somewhere on the

It is a relatively quiet day, save for the monotonous three-wheeled lawnmower occasional jet blasting

Without a soul in the stadium, this is the calm before the storm. Eighty-one professional games will be played here against the San Francisco

All the major work is done here. The crew members meticulously prepare for Friday's annual Bay Bridge game against the San Francisco

Dave Madeiros, a veteran groundskeeper, is driving in tight patterns in right field, arette dangles from his

Wood, sitting in the bleachers, whistles at Madeiros, who his grounded grass crew. Madeiros spots it, and

Alvino McBride, began his first full season with the A's, uses a broom to buff the bullpen rubber to a shine. Though in minutes it is

erred in dust, McBride and scratches away some dirt with his own fingers.

Details, details, details. Dave Rego, a 20-year-old groundskeeper with the A's, is carefully pushing a rake left field foul grounds.

"I think we can play it," Rego, wearing a tattered and a blue knit cap, says.

Opening night

Thirty minutes before the sky has miraculously cleared. The tarp has been removed. Wood is driving a three-wheeled utility cart over the infield, cart drags a screen across

Bases are being fitted into place. Rego is standing at first base, painting the batter's box.

Thousands of people are flung into their seats as the A's are playing catch in center field. Seagulls circle over

By the time the game starts, the field is immaculate. A few tiny mud puddles near first base are the only indication of a recent

Shortly before the game, Wood is standing at home plate. The weather is cleared and the stadium's silver light structures are

impeccable bases. "I have to say," Wood says, "this is the best I've ever been on."

Chuck Knoblauch, the leadoff hitter, takes a lead across the plate for a home run. The season has begun.

All the stars have arrived. The game will be interrupted only by delays and called extra innings — a 5-3 A's victory. The field survives the

One down, 80 to go.



JOANNA JHANDA

GROUNDKEEPER Clay Wood is meticulous in his work as he scans the outfield grass for any sign of weeds.

The Auto Section

The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, Alameda Journal

April 8-9, 1999

Section D

Car Clubs Bay Area drivers get it into gear. Save this directory. [D6]

Classified Motor Mart brings buyers, sellers together [D8]

New Models Meet the new Porsche Boxter [D8]



BMW Z07: Very clever, Mr. Bond

WOODCLIFF, N.J. — James Bond, the film world's most successful secret agent, will be driving the new BMW Z8 in "The World is Not Enough," scheduled for release in November.

This thoroughbred BMW super sports car is as elegant and smooth as Agent 007 and with a six-speed transmission and 400-horsepower V-8 engine, it outraces the bad guys.

Inspired by the BMW 507, the Z8, also a two-seat open sports car, is the ultimate driving machine. The Z8 will go on sale in early 2000.

The movie is BMW's third collaboration with the popular Bond film franchise. BMW launched the Z3 roadster in the 1995 Bond film "Goldeneye," creating enormous demand for that vehicle, which sold out in its first production year. Today the Z3 is the best-selling roadster in the world.

Arnold Wechter



THIS IS A BMW Z07 design study. The BMW Z8, the new "Bond" car for "The World is Not Enough," is based on this concept. Inspired by the BMW 507, the Z8, also a two-seat open sports car, is touted as the ultimate driving machine. The Z8 will go on sale in early 2000. The new 007 film is BMW's third collaboration with the popular Bond franchise. BMW launched the Z3 roadster in the 1995 Bond film "Goldeneye," creating enormous demand for that vehicle.

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Night vision, 'sensing alert' systems taking to the market

Now that competition for the most cupholders and doors in a vehicle seems to have settled down, look for manufacturers to turn to providing the most high tech devices to extend a driver's sensory awareness.

These devices include those that alert the driver to objects near the back or the front of a vehicle, and ones that bore through a dark night, letting a driver see objects that would otherwise be dangerously invisible.

Sensing alert systems are now available on a dozen or more European marques, such as Mercedes-Benz, and on several Ford vehicles, such as the Windstar minivan.

This mechanism senses how close an object, or a person, is to the front or rear of a car. That nearness sets off a progressively steadier warning sound. The warning device lets dri-

Drive, she said

By Denise McLuggage

vers park close to something without actual contact.

For instance, in the garage, Mom or Dad can draw up to the clutter without putting the squeeze on the recycling bin. More importantly, the device warns parents about otherwise unnoticed objects in their path, such as tricycles abandoned in the driveway, or small children or animals wandering into harm's way.

Don't mistake these alarms for those common on trucks. Those sound a steady beep to the world at large when reverse gear is engaged. The new signals sound inside the vehicle and are triggered only when something is sensed nearby. The

beeps get closer together and louder as that distance narrows. Ford offers the signal, called Reverse Sensing System, now as an option on the Windstar. Expect the option on many 2000 models, including Cadillac.

It is Cadillac that has also brought what General Manager John F. Smith calls "Desert Storm technology" to night driving. Cadillac has dubbed it "Night Vision." It employs infrared technology, thermal imaging, to render visible objects that a driver cannot see just with light from the headlights and regular vision.

Most everyone has seen thermal imaging in use whether by SWAT teams on the evening news or in action movies. A thermal sensor "sees" objects that are warmer than their surroundings, and in the Cadillac system displays them on a rectangle shape on the windshield in front of

the driver. The rectangle is about a third of the height of the windshield and, reminiscent of the heads-up displays of instrument information, seems to float there in eerie limbo.

On a recent evening on some dark side streets in Scottsdale, Ariz., I drove a 2000 Cadillac Seville equipped with the Raytheon-developed imaging system (Delphi-Delco designed the heads-up display). Cadillac had thoughtfully seeded the area with some dark-clad pedestrians, bike riders, pram pushers and passengers from a stalled car. All were clearly visible on the Night Vision screen far before the naked eye could pick them out of the murk.

They floated into my ken in reverse color, like the negative of a black and white photograph. That's the transformation of thermal imaging. Night Vision also penetrates the

glare of oncoming headlights so that you can see approaching sport utility vehicles or two side-by-side motorcycles. Though I saw no transfixed deer on those suburban streets, I do think Night Vision would helpfully turn such critters into hot white or cool black. It would also render visible anyone lurking in the shadows when you turn into your driveway at night.

The image Night Vision hangs before your eyes is fascinating. And therein lies a risk. Night Vision is meant as a tool to extend the driver's perception, not a replacement for the usual sources. I wonder if drivers who fail now to use all the sources available to them (i.e. mirrors), and who seem prone to fixate on their headlights' core rather than scanning the entire scene might be drawn irretrievably into this block across a

segment of their windshield. Experience will make it easier to glance and withdraw.

Quick interpretation of the information on the screen also requires experience, unless perhaps you're a photographer, adept at reading up displays anyway, and with thermal imaging to police the picking perps out of trees. I do like the proximity beeper.

One lesson made clear in my experimental ride with Night Vision: you plan to amble along a dark road, wear light colors! Until Cadillac's Night Vision is universal (and your breath), your visibility on wearing something to ordinary headlights. If you drive a Ninja, expect to get creamed.

Keep records to deduct car expenses

By Jan Zobel, EA

Good recordkeeping is the key to deducting car expenses on your tax return. For maximum tax savings, you need to know how many total miles you've driven during the year, and how many of those miles were

for business.

Each January 1, write down your car's odometer reading and you'll know the total mileage for the year. Calculating the number of miles driven for business miles is not as easy.

If you have a deductible office-at-home, you can begin counting your business miles when you leave your home and travel to another business location. If you don't have a home office, the trip to and from home is non-deductible commuting.

To reduce commuting miles, consider opening a business post office box near your home or buying from a nearby supplier. From home to that stop will still be commuting, but from that point on, your business mileage will be deductible.

Ideally, you'll keep a log or note-

book in your car in which you write down either the beginning and ending odometer reading for each business trip, or note how many business miles you drive each day. In either case, also note what business locations you visited.

Although it's easy once you get into the habit, many people don't want to be bothered keeping a car log. If you're one of those people, see if one of the following methods works better for you.

■ Note in your appointment book how many business miles you drive each day.

■ If you go on the same route or to the same location regularly, measure the distance once and count the number of times you make the trip during the year.

■ If you use your vehicle primarily for business, instead of keeping track of the business miles, keep track of the number of personal miles you drive.

■ If your business driving is similar throughout the year, keep detailed records for one month of each quarter or for one week of each month and project your annual business mileage from those figures.

Once you know the total number of miles the car was driven for the year and how many of those were for business, there are two possible ways of deducting your car expenses.

The first is called the actual expense method. To use this method, add together your expenses for gas, oil, repairs, insurance, auto club membership, car license, and loan

interest or lease payments. Then multiply the total expenses by the percentage you use the car for business.

Add depreciation on the car to this figure (unless you lease the car), along with your business parking and tolls. The end result is your total business car expense.

The second method of deducting car expenses, the mileage rate method, is calculated by multiplying the number of business miles you drove during the year by 32.5 cents a mile (31 cents a mile beginning April 1).

The only expenses that can be added to the 32.5¢ a mile is the business percentage of car loan interest and car registration, and business parking and tolls. All other expense

are considered to be covered by the 32.5 cents-a-mile deduction.

The recordkeeping for car expenses may seem tedious but, since it often a sizable expense for your business, the resulting tax deduction make your efforts worthwhile.

Jan Zobel, EA is a Montclair, N.J. professional (enrolled agent) for 20 years, has specialized in working with self-employed individuals. This article is excerpted from her book *Minding Her Own Business: The Self-Employed Woman's Guide to Taxes and Recordkeeping* (Hill Press) which is available for \$16.95 at bookstores or from the publisher.

Do the right thing for yourself and Mother Nature: Recycle that motor oil

Trying to do the right thing by maintaining your vehicle can be perplexing because of what it does to the environment. You end up producing all sorts of ecologically harmful waste.

A well-tuned car or truck runs cleaner and more efficiently than one less-well cared for, so it can use less fuel and produce fewer emissions.

However, each time you replace spark plugs or filters or oil, you're adding to the country's waste problem with the old plugs, filters and oil.

It's a given with most professionals that changing engine oil often — say, every 3,000 to 5,000 miles — is one of the best things you can do for that engine.

Many new vehicles have longer oil-change intervals, maybe as high as 10,000 or 12,000 miles, but that's only under ideal driving conditions. That means that every 3,000 to 5,000 miles you're taking about a gallon of our oil reserves to put in your engine and you're adding a gallon of old, dirty oil to our refuse heap.

To help, rather than hurt the ecology with the old oil, don't simply dump it anywhere. Take it to be recycled.

Most municipalities or counties now have regular oil recycling programs with relatively convenient recycling centers that will accept your

In the Driver's Seat

By Don Chaikin

old oil. This oil is then sold to a recycler that either re-refines it for use again as some sort of lubricant, possibly even engine oil, or as some other industrial or commercial oil.

If you cannot find a convenient oil collection center, ask a local repair shop if you can add your old oil to its collection tank, since the repair shops are required by law to have the oil safely carted away for recycling.

You may even be able to find re-refined engine oil on the shelf of your auto parts store and use the recycled oil in your engine at your next oil change. The oil you bring to be recycled must be free of foreign matter, such as water, household cleaners, food, etc. So be sure the container you collect the oil in is cleaned and dry before you drain the old engine oil into it.

Remember to drain the old oil out of your oil filter and add that oil to the recyclable oil. Let the oil filter drain at least overnight to be sure to get all the old oil out of it before you throw away the filter. Stand the filter upside down in a pan to drain. If you punch or drill a hole in the filter's metal can, it'll drain

more thoroughly.

You can take the old, empty filter to a shop that collects its filters for recycling rather than tossing it in the trash.

While engine oil can be problematic to deal with, old engine coolant-antifreeze should be less so. Antifreeze is biodegradable, so ideally it can be dumped down into the sewer and it will break down safely.

Unfortunately, old antifreeze carries impurities that it has picked up from inside your engine and radiator that are not biodegradable. And while these represent a minute portion of the old coolant, they are technically potentially environmentally harmful. So after you flush your engine's cooling system, you should catch the old coolant and take it to a collection center where it, too, can be recycled.

However, coolant recycling isn't as widespread as oil recycling and your town may not accept old coolant. A better bet is to take the old coolant to a repair shop that collects and recycles coolant. Many large repair shops and dealerships have the equipment to recycle their old coolant on the premises.

Another critical concern with antifreeze — new or old — is that it's poisonous.

Despite its bright color and sweet

odor, it can be deadly to pets, wildlife and children. There are some antifreeze formulations that are marketed as "safer" to children and animals, but they are not totally safe either. Read the label carefully!

In any case, any spilled coolant should be flushed thoroughly and quickly. Don't leave standing puddles of antifreeze, and store your antifreeze in a sealed container, away

from children's reach.

You can be kinder to the environment when you replace your car's or truck's spark plugs by installing more-expensive plugs with platinum or some other precious metal tips. Many new vehicles come with these types of plugs and advertise not needing a tune-up for a 100,000 miles. You may not get 100,000 miles of service from these plugs, but they

will last appreciably longer than standard spark plugs.

Besides meaning that you're helping choke our landfills with degradable trash, you won't have to change spark plugs nearly as often.

Don Chaikin is Automotive Editor for Popular Mechanics Magazine.

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AUTO SHORTS

GENEVA, Switzerland — Mercedes-Benz unveiled its next-generation CL Coupe at the Geneva Motor Show. The CL Coupe is due to arrive in the U.S. early next year and will be offered exclusively in the U.S. market as the CL500 model. It will be powered by a new-generation 302-horsepower 5.0-liter V-8.

A second CL model equipped with a new-generation V-12 engine may be added in the following year. Pricing of the limited-production CL500 is expected to be at or below the outgoing model in line with Mercedes' ongoing value strategy.

The all-new premium luxury coupe bears such Mercedes design hallmarks as four distinctive oval headlights, rounded fenders, a delicate yet dynamic roofline, wrap-around rear windows, a revolutionary Active Body Control (ABC), a high-performance active suspension system that virtually eliminates body roll and pitch during cornering, braking and acceleration.

ABC makes use of high-speed servos and sensors to give the system its split-second reaction time.

KONA, Hawaii — Toyota's strategy for its new Tundra full-size pickup includes undercutting the competition on price, officials admitted at the vehicle's press introduction.

It is the same strategy used in other Toyota/Lexus models. Bring them in under the competition's price and later raise the price as the models gain market share.

Toyota said the base Tundra will have a sticker price of \$15,415, including destination charge. The base Ford F-150 and Chevrolet Silverado are \$15,795 and \$15,995, respectively.

The Auto Section

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Another critical concern with antifreeze — new or old — is that it's poisonous.

Despite its bright color and sweet

odor, it can be deadly to pets, wildlife and children. There are some antifreeze formulations that are marketed as "safer" to children and animals, but they are not totally safe either. Read the label carefully!

In any case, any spilled coolant should be flushed thoroughly and quickly. Don't leave standing puddles of antifreeze, and store your antifreeze in a sealed container, away

from children's reach.

You can be kinder to the environment when you replace your car's or truck's spark plugs by installing more-expensive plugs with platinum or some other precious metal tips. Many new vehicles come with these types of plugs and advertise not needing a tune-up for a 100,000 miles. You may not get 100,000 miles of service from these plugs, but they

will last appreciably longer than standard spark plugs.

Besides meaning that you're helping choke our landfills with degradable trash, you won't have to change spark plugs nearly as often.

Don Chaikin is Automotive Editor for Popular Mechanics Magazine.

GENEVA, Switzerland — Mercedes-Benz unveiled its next-generation CL Coupe at the Geneva Motor Show. The CL Coupe is due to arrive in the U.S. early next year and will be offered exclusively in the U.S. market as the CL500 model. It will be powered by a new-generation 302-horsepower 5.0-liter V-8.

A second CL model equipped with a new-generation V-12 engine may be added in the following year. Pricing of the limited-production CL500 is expected to be at or below the outgoing model in line with Mercedes' ongoing value strategy.

The all-new premium luxury coupe bears such Mercedes design hallmarks as four distinctive oval headlights, rounded fenders, a delicate yet dynamic roofline, wrap-around rear windows, a revolutionary Active Body Control (ABC), a high-performance active suspension system that virtually eliminates body roll and pitch during cornering, braking and acceleration.

ABC makes use of high-speed servos and sensors to give the system its split-second reaction time.

KONA, Hawaii — Toyota's strategy for its new Tundra full-size pickup includes undercutting the competition on price, officials admitted at the vehicle's press introduction.

It is the same strategy used in other Toyota/Lexus models. Bring them in under the competition's price and later raise the price as the models gain market share.

Toyota said the base Tundra will have a sticker price of \$15,415, including destination charge. The base Ford F-150 and Chevrolet Silverado are \$15,795 and \$15,995, respectively.

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MAZDA

MAZDA MIATA.

MX-5 Mazda Miata in victory lap

By Marion Wechter

AMERICAN AUTO WRITERS SYNDICATE
CARLSBAD — The MX-5 Miata returns from its debut at the Chicago Auto Show with a 10th anniversary edition model that surpasses any of its previous limited edi-

tion special edition roadster program in a more refined interior and exterior. Best of all, the gearbox, which is the fun of driving the Miata, now goes to six speeds from a five-speed transmission.

The Miata is well known for its close shift pattern. The new six-speed gearbox for quicker acceleration with less noise and the pleasure of changing gears is never diminished.

Hard Miata owners will agree nothing has been compromised. The addition of the six-speed transmission.

In fact, it takes the driving experience to a new level.

The 10th anniversary edition has a new coat of Sapphire Blue paint with a blue convertible top cover, a departure from the black or tan.

A detachable hard top to match body color is also available.

Some of the additions which this vehicle stand out in a crowd are 15-inch polished aluminum wheels, fog-lights, and rear guards.

Everything, including the aerodynamic side sills, is flush-mounted giving the sporty appearance.

Black and black seats, black trim on the side bolsters and headrests

are part of the package. The wood Nardi steering wheel and shift knob with matching blue and black leather provide another touch of class.

The instrument panel has not been neglected. Chrome rings accent the speedometer and tachometer. The gauges are easy to read with red needles and white numerals.

A 140-horsepower, 1.8-liter four-cylinder engine, rack and pinion steering with variable assist, plus Torsen limited slip differential and Bilstein shock absorbers complete the package. Obviously Mazda has left no stone unturned.

On a drive covering some 250 miles through hills and freeway driving most of the thrills came from doing a slalom on two-way mountain roads.

Shifting gears became the main priority and the six-speed transmission was no slouch. I had some difficulty in the beginning changing down from sixth to fifth gear, but with a little patience and kindness to the gearbox this mental problem was mastered.

Other assets were the power windows providing a cross draft at the touch of a button. The patented Windblocker panel at the back gives some wind protection and cuts down on the noise level.

The optional air conditioning was handy in Palm Springs during the midday sun, and the heater came in handy when the midday sun went down.

The Bose sound system was not put to the test as when you are dri-

ving with the top down on the freeway the cacophony of diesel trucks and various other flotsam and jetsam cannot compete.

Mazda anticipates 3,000 units will be sold before they reach the dealers showroom. This 10th anniversary edition they hope will be the most popular of all the Miatas.

Destined for an overseas market which includes North America, Japan, Europe and Australia, this is the first time there has been a world wide limited-edition Miata offering.

Volume is capped 7,500 units with just 3,000 going to the U.S. market.

Mazda hopes that this model will be one of the most sought-after with exclusive offerings of badges on the driver's side fender, and an owner's certificate with Vehicle Identification Number.

A sequence number signed by James E. Miller, president of Mazda Motor Corporation, and an ignition key fob to match the color of the car completes exclusive ownership of this 10th Anniversary Edition.

How can you lose when this sports car has a following some 30,000 members in the United States. The popularity of the sports car has not waned since it was introduced in 1989.

Mazda continues to keep the tradition alive without compromising safety. This Limited Edition Mazda begs to be driven. You might be tempted to do just that, but you won't be able to take your eyes off that shapely body.

Be kind to your tires; they're kind to you

Whether you drive an economy or luxury car, a pickup or sport utility, and regardless of its age, there's something your vehicle has in common with every other one on the road. It has inflatable rubber tires.

Despite the fact that tires are so unique and so seemingly simple components with exotic underhood electronic wiring, they are critical to your vehicle's performance and safety.

Each time you're ready to drive, the first time of the day, walk around the vehicle and look at each tire. You'll quickly learn to tell a tire that's underinflated.

Before you can judge what an underinflated tire looks like, you've got to know how a properly inflated one looks. That requires a quality tire-pressure gauge. A good gauge will set back \$5 to \$20.

To ensure the gauge is calibrated and the high pressure common with temporary spare tires, usually 60 psi, use the gauge at least once a month to check the inflation pressure of all of your vehicle's tires, including its spare.

Cold tire reading

Check the pressures before driving the car or truck for that day so the tires are "cold." The laws of physics demand that as the temperature of a compressed gas — such as the air inside a tire — goes up, so does the pressure.

Since driving on tires heats them, all tire pressures are given as "cold" or whatever their temperature is while sitting around. Natural pressures will go down when the weather is cold, and up when it's hot. So it's critical that you check tire pressures after any temperature swing. Then compare your readings to those specified by the tire maker.

In the Driver's Seat

By Don Chaikin

The owner's manual will tell you where to find the decal inside the vehicle that lists the recommended inflation pressures for your vehicle. There may be more than one recommendation to cover "normal" driving, versus heavy load or sustained high-speed driving.

Check inflation pressure

You have to first remove the protective cap from the tire valve. Some cars may have valve extender caps to give access to the valve through a thick wheel cover — these are recognizable by their length and their white center — which need not be removed. Hold the gauge head firmly and squarely on the top of the valve. You shouldn't hear any air hissing out as you check.

If the tire is overinflated, bleed some pressure by pressing down on the pin in the middle of the tire valve; recheck the pressure. If it's underinflated, you'll have to add air. If you don't have an air compressor, drive to a close-by service station.

Driving far to get the air will heat the tires. You'll have to recheck their pressure at the station to see how much inflation they gained from the drive and add enough air for them to be properly inflated after they've cooled down again.

The inflation pressure recommended by the car maker is one that's a compromise for good handling, comfortable ride and good fuel economy. Some people like to carry a bit more pressure for better fuel economy at the price of ride comfort.

Don't carry less pressure than the manufacturer recommends or you may damage the tires. And never

carry more inflation pressure than the tire maker says is safe for the tire. The tire maker's recommendations for maximum inflation pressures are embossed on the tire itself. Both over- and underinflation can cause premature tire wear.

Look for damage and wear

Inspect both the tread — the part that actually contacts the road — and the inner and outer sidewalls. Look for bulges and cracks in the sidewalls. If you find any, have the tire replaced.

Check the tread for damage such as missing pieces between the treads, nails, glass and other possible causes of flats. Also check to see how much tread is left on the tire by measuring the depth of the grooves.

As the tire wears and the grooves become more shallow, the tire will have problems gaining traction in the rain.

You can get an accurate measure of the tire's remaining working life by simply inserting a penny, Lincoln's head first, into the grooves around the tire. If you can see the top of Abe's head over the tire, it's time to replace the tire.

Even if there's plenty of rubber left in the tread, but it's worn unevenly, there may be a mechanical problem with your vehicle. Have a technician check the suspension and the wheel alignment.

Don Chaikin is auto editor for Popular Mechanics magazine.

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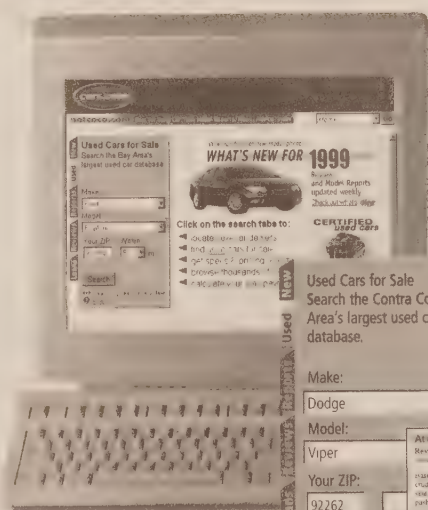
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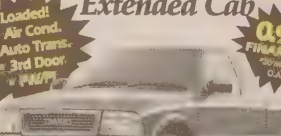
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510-865-0804
e-mail: enjoy89@aol.com; Web site: www.txtbama (for local info) or www.miata.net (for national info)
Meetings: Second Tuesday or Wednesday of the month; location varies. Newsletter BAMA Backroads lists activities including rallies, fun runs, autocrosses, social dinners, Laguna Seca historic races, and more.

Bay Area Mustang Association

PO Box 20292
Castro Valley, CA 94546-8292
e-mail: mustangt@hotmail.com
President: Dennis Rohde 510-797-2667
Secretary: Chuck Wilkens 510-481-8784
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For all 1955-1957 Chevrolet cars, trucks and Corvettes. Meetings are usually the first Friday each month at the Contra Costa Water District building off Concord Ave. Main annual event: Annual Classic Get Together at Concord Blvd. Neighborhood Park (Oct. 3 this year)

Diablo Valley Corvette Club

PO Box 5824
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Hotline: 925-672-8225
President: Jim Neylan 925-676-0873

Diablo Valley Mustang Association

President: Mike Weldon
Web site: www.jps/dvma
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Early Ford V-8 Club of America

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Attn: Dan Wittern

Econoline Organization

15039 Costella Street
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Attn: Jay Long

Falcon Club of America, River City Chapter

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Golden Gate Classic Thunderbird Club

Mike or Rita Press
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Hercules, CA 94547
510-799-0556
e-mail: mjrpgp@hotmail.com
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Golden Gate Lotus Club

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JAG is a San Francisco Bay Area car club consisting of 300+ owners and individuals who appreciate Jaguar automobiles. The location of meetings changes each month. Newsletter: The JAGazette, Richard H. France, editor, 408-353-3770.

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MG Owners' Club (MGOC)

Correspondence Secretary: George Steneberg
9 Pomona Ave.
El Cerrito, CA 94530
510-525-9125
e-mail: j2george@pacbell.net
Web site: http://home.pacbell.net/jensten

Meetings: 7 p.m. second Thursday each month, location varies. Activities include tours, rallies, tech sessions, shows, picnics, annual dinner, awards, monthly gatherings at pubs, meetings. Monthly newsletter The Octagon provides free ads for members, technical and helpful articles, humor, and events. Free expert advice on parts, repair, restoration. Vintage racing information available.

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PO Box 525
Belmont, CA 94002
Attn: Hal Schuette

Military Vehicle Club of California/Military Vehicle Preservation Association

East Bay Contact: Lee Edwards, 925-447-9387.

Monthly swap meets, two statewide rallies. Anyone with an interest in any age and nationality of military vehicles is welcome.

National association: PO Box 520378
Independence, MO 64052-0378
816-737-5111
Membership: \$30/year

Mt. Diablo High Performance Chevy Club

4026 Burbank Dr.
Concord, CA 94521
925-827-0851 after 7 p.m.
925-686-2624 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
1992-1999 Corvettes and Camaros. Meetings once a month, schedule varies. Contact: Nancy Henderson.

National Auto Sport Association

PO Box 21555
Richmond, CA 94805
Northern California Corvette Association
Sharon Evans, social director, 510-538-8716, www.classicar.com/clubs/ncca/ncca-home.htm
Meetings first Tuesday every month 7:30 p.m. at Castro Valley Women's Club, 18330 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley
Billed as America's Oldest Corvette Club, incorporated May 9, 1957. Events include autocross, drag races, tours, shows, charitable events. Annual event is Vette Magic, 2-day race event early June.

North American Singer Owners Club

6211 Westwood Way
Oakland, CA 94611
ATTN: Jonas Waxman
(510) 339-1556
singer4ad@aol.com

Northern California Cruisers

John Loudon
PO Box 20234
El Sobrante, CA 94802
510-233-0721
Pre-1972 American stock, custom, hot rods. Annual event: Cruisin' in the Sun, benefit car show June 6, 1999 in Napa.

Northern California Kit Car Club

c/o Vern Hance, treasurer
3317 Ellesmere Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
925-938-1442
Web site: www.kitcar.com/nckcc
Organized to promote learning more about cars through sharing information among members. Annual September show. Monthly newsletter. Shows, parades, promotions.
Membership: \$2/month (\$24 each January)

Northern California Model T Ford Club, Inc.

Chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America
4100 Alhambra Ave., PO Box 150
Martinez, CA 94553
Meetings second Thursday of the month (except December) at City of Lafayette Recreation Building, 711 St. Mary's Lafayette. Dues: \$25.

Pacheco, Martinez and Port Costa Sewing Circle, Book Review Society, Street Racing Association

9 Benita Way
Martinez, CA 94553
925-228-1410.

Founded 1985, more than 1,200 members. Club meets irregularly to enjoy the outdoors, automobiles, business, and more. Gran Prix racing at grass roots membership restrictions, no dues.

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of Corvair Society of America (CSOA)

John Saunders
617 Keats Dr.
Vallejo, CA 94591
707-643-3998.
Meetings first Wed. of each month. Orinda Library at 7:30 p.m.

Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club, Inc.

Chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America. PO Box 2081, Saratoga, CA 95070.
Meetings third Friday of the month 7 p.m., Mairdon Room, 464 N. Winchester. Santa Clara. Membership: \$20.

Santa Clara Valley Thunderbirds

6371 Firefly Drive
San Jose, CA 95120

Shelby American Auto Club

PO Box 700789
San Jose, CA 95170

Solid Axle Corvette Club

PO Box 2288
N. Highlands, CA 95660

Sorry Safari Touring Society - WMA (SSTS)

Membership: Ben Lend
719 Wichtaw Dr.
Fremont, CA 94539
510-651-0808
Meetings: Third Wednesday each month. Location varies.

Sports Car Club of America

301 Preston Court
Livermore, CA 94550

Sprite-Midget Owners Group

PO Box 3217
Santa Clara, CA 95051

Sunbeam Alpine Club

1752 Oswald Place
Santa Clara, CA 95051

Tri-Valley Classic Chevy Club

Meets 7:30 p.m. on the second of the month at the Livermore Airport. Chevy cars, trucks, Corvettes.

Vintage Mustang Owners Assn.

6371 Firefly Drive
San Jose, CA 95120

Voivo Club of America

e-mail: Dspielvol@aol.com call 510-849-0961

Western States Corvettes

2321 Falling Water Ct.
Santa Clara, CA 95054
Zimmerman Registry
2081 Madeline Court
Los Altos, CA 94024-6725
Attn: Chet & Marlene Zimmerman

If you know of another Bay Area club or want help starting a new car club, contact John Snyder, auto editor, 5707 Broadway Rd., Oakland, 94619, or you can e-mail: jnsnyder1@cctimes.com. This list is as a public service.

Breathable car cover protects against moisture buildup

Dear Doctor: We have a moisture build-up problem in a 1990 Corvette that is outside and covered with a car cover (against my suggestion). My son wanted to protect the paint finish while he is gone for a few months. I am afraid the moisture will damage the interior. I have tried baking soda on newspapers, but no change. Dale

Dear Dale: The first thing to do is dry out the interior by Mother Nature or the heater. You will need to check under the floor mats and rear section inserts for water build-up. The second suggestion is make sure the car cover is for outside use and is breathable; a non-breathable cover will cause a moisture problem. I personally do not like car covers on vehicles left outside and not used for months. There are mildew eliminator products on the market and many are found at boat supply stores.

Can't change ratios

Dear Doctor: I own a 1995 GMC Sonoma SLE 4x4. The problem is with the electronic 4x4 push button engagement. If I try to change from 2WD to 4WD high and low range, it will not switch properly. I have replaced the button assembly and expensive control module under the dash. If I disconnect the battery for a while, then reconnect it, the buttons operate properly for a few days. What can you suggest? Leon

Dear Leon: The first mistake is replacing parts without understanding how the electrical switching works. You

Ask the Auto Doc

By Junior Damato

need to either buy the factory shop manual for your GMC, or find a shop with the Mitchell On-Demand data base so they can print out the correct trouble flow chart to test and repair the system. Your other choice is to take the pickup to the dealer. There is a three line vacuum switch mounted on the transmission (driver side) that is a common failure on the 4WD system.

Weak turbo charger?

Dear Doctor: We are the original owners of a 1987 Subaru Turbo XT. When the engine temperature is normal, the engine loses power like the turbo charger stops working. A computer analysis indicated a number of problems which could cause the problem. I replaced the turbo charger and catalytic converter, and had a full tune-up. The loss of power still exists. Can you offer any advice? Bob

Dear Bob: Computer memory faults are a good place to start as you did, however, a fault code doesn't mean that the actual problem is in the circuit. A rich or lean trouble code would be in the oxygen sensor circuit, which can be caused from too much or too little fuel, not necessarily a faulty O2 sensor. Your next step is to have the shop hook up a fuel pressure tester and vacuum

gauge and take a road test. These basic tests will tell the shop if there is a restriction in the exhaust or low fuel pressure. I have seen both problems on these vehicles.

What's with the SSS light?

Dear Doctor: I own a 1993 Cadillac DeVille which I purchased new and kept dealer-serviced. In the past 25 months, the SSS light has come on. Each time the problem has been one of the struts, costing between \$700-\$900. All the original struts have failed from 54,000 to 74,000 miles. The dealer said the gas part of the strut was fine, the problem is the electrical portion for the speed sensitive ride and road control. Was it necessary to replace them, and is this normal for the DeVille? Charles

Dear Charles: I have replaced many struts on DeVilles with speed sensitive ride control, all having the same condition—the electrical portion of the valve action of the strut. This seems to be a common failure. To have the car handle and ride properly, I would suggest the replacement of the problem strut. You should ask the dealer to meet with the Cadillac zone representative to discuss a possible financial consideration on this problem.

Eight mpg around town?

Dear Doctor: I own a 1997 Ford F-250 with the 460 cid engine automatic

transmission. This was the first year for the old style design. The truck is fine except for the gas mileage. The mileage is 8 to 9 miles per gallon around town. What benefits would I get from replacing the stock air filter with the K&N filter (which is not approved in Calif.), and using different plugs and wires along with a computer chip. Should I drive around town with the overdrive off or on? Mike

Dear Mike: Your F-250 has plenty of power and a good appetite for gasoline. Everything you mentioned will improve both mileage and power. I would not replace the spark plugs and wire until you get 25,000 miles on them. Don't expect the mileage to go up more than 1 or 2 miles per gallon. Another suggestion is the use of synthetic oil and rear end gear oil.

Contaminated brake master

Dear Doctor: The brake master cylinder was accidentally contaminated with transmission fluid on our 1989 Mercury Cougar. All parts stores tell us to go to the dealer at a cost of \$1,800 for replacement of the hydraulic system. Richard

Dear Richard: When anything enters the master cylinder other than brake fluid, all rubber hoses, calipers, wheel cylinders, ABS unit and master cylinder may need replacement. Check with a couple of shops; ask for a remanufactured master cylinder and rebuilt calipers, and new wheel cylinders.



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THREE OWNERS LATER, this '64 Chevy Impala looks showroom-floor fresh.

VERN PARKER

'64 Chevy Impala sings after decades

Classic Classic

By Vern Parker

For more than a decade, Harry Gibson has enjoyed his 1964 Chevrolet coupe, except when his antique car club would take tours. The old stove-top six-cylinder engine would strain to keep up with modern-day traffic. Since Gibson's plans include retirement, which means more time to travel, he decided to take action last summer. He began looking for a more modern antique car than his 1964 Chevrolet. He was seeking a nice touring car, preferably a Chevrolet.

Yes, it absolutely had to be a Chevrolet, one that could keep up with traffic.

How was Gibson to know his path would soon cross with a 1964 Chevrolet Impala two-door hardtop sold new in Thomasville, N.C., June 27, 1964?

Emma Caudell Means, the car's original owner, paid \$3,276.45 for the blue Impala in 1964. Back then, when the dust settled after figuring trade-in, taxes, delivery charge and down payment, she agreed to make 36 monthly payments of \$76.75. The handsome Chevrolet came from the factory equipped with an AM radio with a rear-seat speaker, red glass, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, white sidewall 7.00x14-inch tires and full steel covers.

Somewhere between then and now, the 17 1/2-foot-long car was sold to Ben Connor of Conover, N.C. Even though a healthy 283-cubic-inch V8 engine under the hood pumping out 150 horsepower, Connor refrained

from putting very much mileage on the Impala, not unlike the original owner. Dan Kremer, of Winchester, Va., became the third owner of the 55-inch tall, 77-inch wide Chevy Impala. All of the first three owners of the Impala took extraordinary care of the car during their tenures.

Gibson learned of the low mileage, all-original 1964 Chevrolet and after some persuasive talking, managed to get Kremer to agree to sell the car. The deal was consummated August 15, 1998, and Gibson drove his like-new old Chevrolet home.

Gibson soon noticed the slightest "ping" when accelerating while burning regular grade gasoline. With the two-barrel carburetor feeding the engine high-test gasoline from the 20-gallon tank, the "ping" is eliminated. The durable V8 takes 17 quarts of coolant and five quarts of oil to continue running smoothly. Gibson reports highway mileage of about 18 m.p.g., satisfactory for his planned touring with the car.

Once Gibson got the car home, he went over it from bumper to bumper and discovered that he had bought a remarkably well-cared-for all-original Impala.

Lifting the trunk lid that holds the two backup lights and the two in-board tail lights exposes the cavernous trunk with the spare tire stored horizontally on the shelf above

the rear axle.

"There's not a rust spot anywhere in the trunk," Gibson says. "That's unusual," he adds, "because the trunks on these cars were rust-prone."

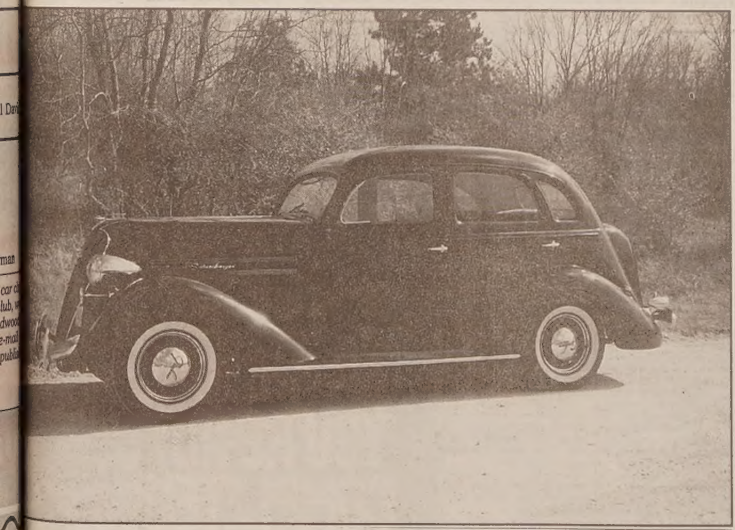
The 3,415-pound hardtop automobile rides on a 119-inch wheelbase. Beneath the spare tire is a standard issue bumper jack.

With the long overhang over the rear axle of the car, use of the bumper jack on the rear bumper was and is particularly treacherous. Inside the 6-foot, 5-inch wide car, however, is a spaciousness incomprehensible to those who have become accustomed to the modern-day, government-mandated, downsized automobiles.

Installing — with some difficulty — a steering wheel cover to camouflage the few blemishes on the original, Gibson notes the odometer has just now rolled over 50,000 miles on "Old Blue." All Gibson ever wanted was a nice car for touring and evidently he has found it. The family has already given the car a name that Gibson says is a good thing because, he explains, you can't sell something you have named. He obviously expects to be the fourth owner of "Old Blue" for quite some time.

If you have an antique car of interest to "Classic Classics" readers, write to Vern Parker detailing its merits. (Please, no inquiries about selling or buying vehicles.) His address: 2221 Abbottsford Drive, Vienna, VA 22181.

CORRECTION



VERN PARKER

LAST WEEK'S PAPER, we ran the wrong photo with our Vern Parker "Classic Classic" feature. This is 1936 Graham-Paige Supercharger we intended to run. Thanks to all who called.

34 years later, Porsche Carrera 911 blasts back to town with redesign

In the Driver's Seat

By Marion Wechter

There is nothing worse than stalling at a stop light while driving a 1999 Porsche 911 Carrera Coupe. You look bad.

You are tickling the accelerator for a jack start then a flame-out. But I'm not going to quit stalling when telling you about this new body design which is longer, sleeker and sleeker than the earlier models. I have taken Porsche 34 years to introduce this new 1999 Porsche 911 Carrera. The way how to keep a sports car design from losing the integrity of a very popular vehicle and add all kinds of appointments. There are no radical design changes on the exterior which would offend the die-hard fans. What has been achieved for the familiar Porsche with an all-new body, windshield and body.

How can one improve on perfection? A personal viewpoint.

The interior space, an automatic climate control system power windows and locks, a security system and remote control

are some of the features. Dual front and side air bags add to the package.

The 911 is equipped with an aluminum alloy front and rear suspension, four-wheel disc brakes with anti-lock system, power-assisted rack and pinion steering, plus a six-speed manual transmission. The new five-speed Tiptronic S automatic transmission is available as an option. It allows the driver to shift manually without a clutch.

An increase in the wheelbase to 92.6 inches, a difference of 3.2 inches more than previous models, plus an overall increase in length and width results in more room for stowing luggage which in previous models was a real pain.

With all this new stuff spinning around in my brain there was nothing left but to put

the 911 to the test.

Noise was noticeably reduced, making for a much quieter ride. Also gone was the stiffness in handling although the body construction of high strength steel makes the vehicle stiffer than previous models, performance is not compromised.

Performance is the operative word. My favorite testing ground of a back mountain road was made for the 911.

A true test of any vehicle on a curvy narrow road is the cornering and acceleration. Sometimes on narrow mountain roads understeer becomes a factor when maneuvering on tight corners. It depends on the condition of the road, and the time of year. This test was done when the roads were icy and wet.

I had no problem with oversteer or understeer on sharp corners but I admit caution prevailed because the road was icy and wet in some places.

Steering wheels that have a comfortable grip are important because you are going to

be hanging on to them for a long time. It's a sort of fetish with me. Also gear shift knobs. Alright, maybe it's being fussy but I liked the shape of the Carrera shift knob, and it was comfortable.

With a water-cooled six-cylinder 3.4 liter 296 horsepower engine mounted in the rear, Porsche stays with the tradition of the boxer engine.

For the uninitiated, the boxer engine receives its name from the horizontally opposed pistons.

After cranking the 911 up to 90 MPH on the straightaway statistics become a blur.

Two-hundred and 96 horsepower at 6,800 rpm, 258 ft/lbs of torque at 4,600 rpm with 220 ft/lbs hovering between 2,700 and 7,000 rpm, those dual overhead camshafts with four valves per cylinder. Everything is humming along nicely and that delightful whine of the engine when it slows down on the landing strip is music to the ears.

The 911 Carrera is equipped with vented,

cross-drilled front and rear brake discs. This new braking system represents a better feel for the brakes and exceptional brake cooling and are adapted from the Porsche's race cars.

To be honest I never think about how brakes work or how they are built. But I tried a quick stop and the Bosch ABS 5.3 antilock system works well.

The Bosch ABS 5.3 system is designed for maximum wheel speed monitoring without pumping the brake pedal in emergency situations. Important also is the position of the handbrake which is mounted in the center console. I like to be close to the handbrake on a hill. Foot brakes just don't do it.

Standard 18-inch light alloy wheels or optional 19-inch wheels are available for added attraction.

Gas mileage for both city and highway driving averaged 17 MPG for city, and 25 MPG for highway.

Jaguar S-type uses voice commands

'Just the beginning,'
automaker says

Jaguar's new S-Type sedan, to arrive in dealer showrooms in May, will mark the most expensive use of speech-recognition in automobiles to date, and experts say it is only the beginning.

Using simple voice commands, the S-Type driver will be able to make calls on the cellular telephone, set the radio station, play a compact disc or cassette tape and adjust the heat and air conditioning. In total, the Jaguar system allows 44 commands.

Jaguar charges about \$700 for its speech-recognition system designed for drivers in the United Kingdom; the system specified for U.S. drivers has not been priced yet.

While Jaguar is the first to deliver to market the most expensive use of speech-recognition in an automobile, every major vehicle manufacturer is exploring new uses this technology.

Toyota's luxury line, Lexus, has offered such a system on the cellular telephone in its flagship LS 400 sedan since 1993.

The General Motors Corp.'s On-Star communications and navigation system, available initially on Cadillac and now offered on a number of brand models, includes a hands-free phone with speech-recognition to dial numbers.

The top-of-the-line Mercedes-Benz S-Class, on sale beginning this spring, has speech-recognition for operation of the phone.

A number of concept cars over the past two years have showcased how far speech-recognition technology can be expanded.

Ford Motor Company's giant parts-making company, Visteon Corp., which developed the Jaguar system, demonstrated a speech-recognition system a year ago at the

Down the Road

By Michelle Krebs

Society of Automotive Engineers exposition in Detroit that reads e-mail and stock quotes.

GM's Delphi Automotive Systems, has been displaying its Network Vehicle concept at trade shows to similarly illustrate how speech recognition can be used for e-mail in the car along with the operation of the phones and satellite TV.

The Buick Cielo concept car, which made its debut at the 1999 North American International Auto Show in Detroit, uses speech recognition not only for operating the audio system and temperature controls, but also to open and close the doors and retract the roof.

DaimlerChrysler plans to add speech recognition to its Jeep Commander, a concept vehicle that also made its debut at the Detroit auto show in January. The voice commands will be used to operate the portable computer on-board with Internet access to read and dictate e-mail messages.

Major breakthroughs with microprocessors and speech-recognition software have vastly improved the performance and drastically reduced the costs of the systems, making them more viable in an industry where every nickel counts, experts say.

Speech-recognition is particularly attractive in the automobile business for reasons unique to other industries.

Safety concerns arising from the increased use of cellular phones and navigation systems are causing engineers to look for new technologies that will allow the driver to continue using the phone and navigation systems, but without taking their hands

and eyes off the road.

Car buyers are also demanding more and more comfort, convenience and communications functions in their vehicles as they use them for mobile offices.

Experts say that in the not-too-distant future, cars will be equipped with Internet access to allow the driver to send and retrieve e-mail messages, hear a weather forecast, gain a traffic report or pick up stock quotes.

Speech recognition has the advantage of allowing one simple voice command to replace multiple functions, noted.

Bob Prew, principal engineer and project coordinator for the Jaguar S-Type. A command like "Play CD, disc 4, track 7" would take five or six button pushes and knob turnings to accomplish.

Speech recognition to operate controls also cleans off the dashboard, giving designers more freedom.

Automotive experts predict eventually speech-recognition in cars, as is expected to be the case in the computer industry, will move beyond simple voice commands like "phone home" and allow continuous speech.

However, that remains many years away, they admit. In contrast to the office or home, the automotive environment is noisy, making continuous speech recognition more challenging.

Moreover, auto manufacturers are global and sell in diverse markets. Creating systems that can understand all languages and dialects remains a daunting task.

Dealers see 'secret' lease market grow

Down the Road

By Michelle Krebs

Leasing has become an increasingly popular way to finance used cars over the past decade, but many people are still unaware that used-car leases are available and the of advantages they offer.

In 1990, only about 46,000 used cars were leased every year, and those leases were offered almost exclusively by the nation's 9,000 independent leasing companies, according to statistics from CNW Marketing/Research in Bandon, Ore. By 1995, the number rose to 281,000, and to 392,000 by 1997. Last year, largely because giant GE Credit Corp. got into the act, the number of used-car leases surged to 607,000 vehicles. GE Credit, however, has since retreated from used-car leasing.

As it does in new-car leasing, Ford Motor Credit dominates used-car leasing. Mercedes-Benz is a significant provider of used-car leases as well. The captive finance companies of other automakers also offer some used-car leasing, but often they are restricted to vehicles covered under their used-car certification programs, or, at the very least, are no more than three years old, typically off-lease cars. People who fell in love with leasing a new car also drove the market by requesting leases be made available for the used cars they added to their households.

Used-car leases provide the same advantages that new-car leases offer to consumers. The payments are substantially lower compared with financing a purchase, though the difference is not as great as on a new-car purchase versus a new-car lease.

A monthly payment on a used-car lease is about a third of the monthly payment on a used-car purchase; a new car lease, especially if it is subsidized by an automaker, can be

Upper-income
women represent the
largest chunk of
high-end used car
leases, according to
CNW
Marketing/Research
studies.

about half the monthly payment of a purchase. The savings allows the driver to acquire a more expensive car.

In addition, like on a new-car lease, the used-car lease allows the buyer to simply turn the car back into the dealer at the end of the lease instead of hassling with a trade-in. And the trade-in of a five, six or seven-year-old used car can be significantly more trouble than trading in a newer car as the gap between estimated trade-in values can be wide.

Interestingly, used-car leasing is popular with women. Upper income women represent the largest chunk of high-end used car leases, according to CNW Marketing/Research studies. A woman is more likely to lease a two-year-old Mercedes-Benz, for instance, than a man of similar demographics who is more likely to lease a new Mercedes.

Despite the increased popularity and obvious advantages for some buyers, the number of used-car leases falls far short from what the experts had predicted five years ago. A huge increase was expected because of the building pool of used

cars created by off-lease new cars. In addition, subsidized leases by the automakers had pushed independent leasing companies out of the new-car leasing business. They were forced to find alternative profit centers, and one of those was used-car leasing.

"Two years ago, the projections were that used-car leases would hit 1.25 million vehicles by now and 2 million by 2002," said CNW Marketing/Research's Art Spinella. "That's not going to happen."

Among the many reasons that used-car leasing will fall short of projections is the lack of awareness by consumers. Fewer than 10 percent of the people who buy a one- to five-year-old used car are aware a lease is available; that compares with 72 percent of people who buy new cars. "The primary source of learning about new-car leasing comes from a business associate and advertising," said Spinella. "The source of used-car leasing is someone at the dealership, and some dealers would rather not promote used-car leasing."

Car companies aren't likely to promote it heavily since they are in the business of selling new cars. And used-car superstores such as AutoNation and CarMax haven't promoted it either.

"Without someone with marketing clout to make consumers aware they can lease used cars, the market is never going to grow very fast," said Spinella, who expects only an additional 175,000 vehicles will be leased in 1999 over 1998.

Nevertheless, Spinella advises a potential used-car buyer to consider leasing and ask the dealer if used-car leasing is available.

1999 Chevy Tracker at home on the range or commute

If sport utility vehicles were horses, working cowboys would ride a 1999 Chevrolet Tracker — the quarter horse of sport utes.

Quarters don't boast the classic elegance of Arabians, nor the refined speed of Thoroughbreds. But for the hard, dirty round-up jobs, a quarter horse is tough to beat.

The same goes for the new Tracker.

This small SUV is definitely at its best on the range. I tested the four-door 4WD Tracker over Virginian ranch country. It dodged cows with the agility of a colt, eased up muddy hills, raced across pastures, and splashed through small streams. Chevrolet engineers told me the Tracker's new snorkel intake allows it to ford streams with water as high as the hood. That's almost amphibious.

Tracker performed all of its 4x4 chores with ease.

Built in Ingersoll, Canada through a joint Chevrolet-Suzuki venture, Tracker and its twin, Suzuki Vitara, compete against some very popular models — the Toyota RAV4, the Honda CR-V and the Subaru Forester. A complete makeover has discarded Tracker's old sardine-can styling.

Smooth curves, flared fenders, rounded flanks and a subtly styled grille have brought it up to par with these contemporaries.

However, Tracker offers distinct advantages over them in structure, off-road prowess, and price.

It bucks the trend among competitors for lightweight car-based unibody designs. Tracker is a true truck,

Get off the road

By Christopher Keane

constructed with a rigid body-on-ladder-box steel frame — and should provide tested, durable, heavy-duty performance.

The chassis sports a five-link rear suspension with coil springs and gas shocks, and a MacPherson independent strut front suspension. Although this translated into a typical truck-like ride on the pavement, it provided excellent stiffness for off-road control.

New standard power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering kept the handling smooth and tight. An excellent 97.6-inch wheelbase and wider track kept the Tracker's stance balanced. Even with the rugged design, engine and road noise were surprisingly soft. Noise has been significantly dampened on this new design.

Another advantage for Tracker is its true two-speed four-wheel drive system. Unlike the all-wheel drive competition, Tracker's low gear provides tractor-like power for extreme rock crawling and towing up to 1,500 pounds.

New shift-on-the-fly 4WD allowed shifting between 2WD and 4WD at any time below 62 mph. With 15-inch wheels, oversize all-season tires and an excellent 8-inches of ground clearance, Tracker is well-prepared for off-road excursions.



THE '99 TRACKER.

Porsche happy to find supply of 911s, Boxsters in great demand

Resisting the pressures of smallness is second nature to Porsche, maker of some of the most lusted-after cars in the marketplace. While other niche players are being swallowed up by bigger car makers, tiny Porsche not only survives, but prospers. The 911 and Boxster are among the car industry's most enthusiastic models.

In fact, Porsche has difficulty producing enough Boxsters to fill demand. Even with additional production from a factory in Finland,

Down the road

By Herb Shuldiner

Boxsters virtually roll off delivery trucks into the hands of customers, some of whom have been waiting months for the opportunity to drive one away. Despite this popularity, Porsche is virtually a boutique car maker. It has a total capacity of only 40,000 cars annually.

So how does tiny Porsche sur-

vive? Even Volvo, with a production capacity ten times greater than Porsche's, was recently sold to Ford because its owners felt the Swedish company was too small to compete with bigger car companies. There's no simple answer to this question. Porsche's engineering innovation and excellence may offer clues to how a small niche car manufacturer can prosper. In addition, Porsche's racing tradition that includes 16 wins at LeMans 24-hour punishing races also inspires a craving for the Ger-

man-engineered sports car.

The 911 Carrera 4 is Porsche's newest model and it bristles with the engineering innovations sports cars fans expect from the German car maker. Its engine generates abundant power and the car hurtles around corners as though its tires stay glued to the road. Designed to compete with the Jaguar XK8, BMW 850, Mercedes SL 500 and 600 models, Dodge Viper, Acura NSX and Ferrari sports cars, Porsche 911 Carrera 4 is well equipped to more than

hold its own in this august company.

Porsche engineers have added a new traction control system and a viscous coupling that give the Carrera 4 outstanding all-wheel drive traction and an astonishing ability to take the tightest corners with virtually no body roll.

The viscous clutch from ZF provides all-wheel drive to give the Carrera 4 optimum traction during acceleration, but can deliver a maximum of 40 percent power to the

front wheels. That allows the Carrera 4 to retain its bias as a rear-drive vehicle and maintain its superior handling abilities.

Under normal driving conditions the Carrera 4 is a rear-drive vehicle. But if wheel sensors detect the front wheels begin to spin, the car fluid in the viscous clutch is pumped up and puts increasing pressure against a series of disks in the clutch. This transfers power to the front wheels.

MOTOR MART

TRANSPORTATION

101 Autos

ACURA 1996 INTEGRA GSR PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, CC, tilt, moonroof, custom wheels, ABS, 33k low miles. STK#462340. WAS: \$18,280; SALE: \$15,488

Lloyd Wise
Used Car Supermarket
510-638-4000

ACURA 1996 INTEGRA RS PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, CD, extra clean, low miles. STK#462360. SALE: \$12,688

Lloyd Wise
Used Car Supermarket
510-638-4000

ACURA 1991 Integra, 5-speed, excel condition, very reliable, clean. Alarm, sunroof, spoiler, PW/PL. \$7,500. 510-523-5683

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BMW 2002, 1976. Restoration project, runs good, damaged in accident, green/tan. \$750. 510-540-7703

BMW 1996 318i, 26K, green. Asking \$20,000/obo. 510-832-7687

BUICK 1987 PARK AVE AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, CC, tilt, custom wheels, extra clean, low miles. STK#613461. SALE: \$3,888

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510-638-4000

CADILLAC 1976 Seville, showroom condition, 54K original miles garaged, extras, \$5,000. Serious inquiries only! 510-532-4844

CADILLAC 1999 DEVILLE, loaded, low miles. #708467. \$29,999

Used Car Superstore
1-800-830-5311

CADILLAC 1988 SEVILLE, loaded, very clean. 65K miles. #05870. \$6,995

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1-800-830-5311

CADILLAC 1985 Sedan DeVille, 4-dr, \$15,000. 510-222-2115

CHEVY 1997 271 X-CAB, Low miles, clean #183582. \$22,999

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1-800-830-5311

CHEVY 1996 LUMINA AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, tilt, ABS. STK#462450. WAS: \$10,980. SALE: \$9,995

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Suburban Jeep Tahoes

CORVETTE 1987 Coupe, Maroon, good condition. \$6,995/obo. Call 510-523-5312

DODGE 1996 INTREPID AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, CC, tilt, custom wheels, extra clean, 3.5 V6. STK#461970. WAS: \$12,580. SALE: \$9,868

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FORD 1998 CONTOUR SE AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, CC, tilt, ABS. STK#462430. WAS: \$15,180. SALE: \$11,880

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FORD 1996 EXPLORER, 4x4, nice. #076533. \$19,999

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1-800-830-5311

FORD 1991 Taurus GL, loaded, very good cond, high miles, 1-owner, very records. \$2800/BO. 510-556-8801

FORD 1989 RANGER AT, PS, Bedliner, extra clean. STK#613591. SALE: \$3,888

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FORD 1988 RANGER XGAS, shell, V6. #481462. \$4,995

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FORD 1989 Taurus LX, fully loaded, sunroof and wheels. Smogged/safety checked. \$2,800. #250021. 510-796-9268

FORD 1989 Taurus, White in color, runs new. Must sell. #188080. \$2,000.

510-796-9268; call: 510-917-2086

GMC Yukon, 1994, 70K, white, 2 door, turbo, alarm, excel cond, \$17,000. 510-482-9618. 8-5.

HONDA 1990 Accord, 4 door, excel cond, 5-speed, all svc records, 125K, \$5300/obo. 510-652-9956.

HONDA 1997 ACCORD LX AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, CC, tilt, extra clean, low miles. STK#462090. WAS: \$16,480; SALE: \$14,888

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Used Car Supermarket
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HONDA 1997 CIVIC LX PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, CC, tilt, extra clean, low miles. STK#462240. WAS: \$15,180; SALE: \$13,388

Lloyd Wise
Used Car Supermarket
510-638-4000

HONDA 1995 Odyssey AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, CC, tilt, 45 low miles, ABS. Rear AC. STK#462370. WAS: \$17,480; SALE: \$14,988

Lloyd Wise
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HONDA 1994 ACCORD LX AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, CC, tilt, ABS. Low miles. STK#287831. #18,680

Lloyd Wise
Used Car Supermarket
510-638-4000

HONDA 1993 CIVIC LX AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, CC, tilt, 45 low miles. STK#306051. Lic#3HK-L056WAS: \$10,180; SALE: \$7,995

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Used Car Supermarket
510-638-4000

HONDA 1992 Prelude S, AT, AC, 2-dr, silver, sunroof, 79K mi, \$8,600. 510-814-9960. 510-389-5253 (pager)

HONDA 1990 CIVIC WAGON, auto, A/C, PS, Cass. This car is for you! Only \$5,988 (DPO#0858)

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HONDA 1986 Accord, AC, AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass. Good condition. \$2,500. 510-644-5441

HONDA 1985 Civic CRX, excel condition. New tires. \$2,800. 510-482-3858

HYUNDAI 1990 SONATA GLS AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, CC, tilt, moonroof, 58K low miles. 6 cyl. STK#306102. SALE: \$3,888

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PONTIAC 1987 GRAND AM AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, CC, tilt, ABS, low miles. STK#462420. WAS: \$12,880; SALE: \$9,888

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PONTIAC 1994 FIREBIRD Auto, Green & clean. \$6,995

Used Car Superstore
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KIA 1996 SAPHRA AT, PS, AC, AM/FM Cass, 33K low miles. STK#461531. WAS: \$9,775. SALE: \$5,995

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LANDROVER 1997 Discovery LSE, 15K miles, grey w/ tan leather, CD, dual sunroof, \$29,500. 510-339-8732

LINCOLN 1997 MARK VIII Beautiful, loaded. \$24,995

Used Car Superstore
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MERCEDES 1988 300E, Teal/Camel, new tires, well maint, garaged. \$12,500. John 510-653-4833

MERCEDES 1992 300TE Wagon, Blue/tan lthr, ABS, dual air-bags, sunroof, Warranty. 92K, \$21,900. 510-547-8032

MERCUY 1997 TRACER LS AT, PS, AC, AM/FM Cassette, custom wheels, extra clean, ABS, 24K, Full Factory Warranty.

WAS: \$14,680; SALE: \$9,995

Lloyd Wise
Used Car Supermarket
510-638-4000

MITSUBISHI 1996 GALANT AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, tilt, CC, extra clean, STK#462410. WAS: \$14,680; SALE: \$10,988

Lloyd Wise
Used Car Supermarket
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NISSAN MAX SE 1996, 5-spd, Bose/CD, ABS, Moonroof, 60K, blk on blk. \$15,000. 925-842-4828.

NISSAN MAX 1987, AM/FM Cass, sunroof, great cond. \$4,000 OBO. 510-522-6006.

NISSAN 1988 300ZX, 1-top, 5-spd, maint. records. \$9,000. 510-713-9075

OLDS 1998 AURORA Loaded, low miles. #118435. \$22,999

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PLYMOUTH 1973 Scamp, rebuilt, alert & reliable, registration to 4/2000. #1018435. 510-865-8359

PONTIAC 1987 GRAND AM AT, PS, AC, PL, PW, AM/FM Cass, CC, tilt, ABS, low miles. STK#462420. WAS: \$12,880; SALE: \$9,888

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PONTIAC 1994 FIREBIRD Auto, Green & clean. \$6,995

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Porsche 1980 924 Turbo Sunroof 78K miles \$2,200 (510) 523-8332

SAAB 1993 900 Turbo convertible, 5 speed, excellent condition, low 64K miles, leather, CD and more! Super sales at \$14,888. I.D.#001076

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TOYOTA 1985 4x4 4-runners SR5, 5 speed, 4-cyl, A/C, PS, tilt, CC, chrome wheels, removable top. Very good condition. \$6,888. ID#079478. Warranty.

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TOYOTA 4-Runners: 4-door, 4x4, 5 speed and automatic. Some leather, all loaded, 3 to choose from 1995 models. Great selection!

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TOYOTA 1996 TERCEL DX AT, PS, AC, AM/FM Cass, extra clean. 37 low miles. STK#462260. WAS: \$11,880. SALE: \$8,995

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Used Car Supermarket
510-638-4000

TOYOTA 1996 TACOMA Extra Cab, 5-speed, 4-cyl, 2x4. Toyota warranty to 100K, certified, A/C, PS, bed liner, case, slide rear window, 5-pass seating. \$11,488. I.D.#217405

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TOYOTA 1990 TERCEL, 2dr, auto, A/C, case, PS. Only 83K miles. Excellent choice, affordable, dependable. Only \$4,888. ID#568048

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TOYOTA 1988 CAMRY 4-dr, 4-cyl, auto, PS, A/C, New Paint, excel cond. This one's for you. Warranty. Only \$5,988. I.D.#350690

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TOYOTA 1985 4x4 4-runners SR5, 5 speed, 4-cyl, A/C, PS, tilt, CC, chrome wheels, removable top. Very good condition. \$6,888. ID#079478. Warranty.

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TOYOTA 4-Runners: 4-door, 4x4, 5 speed and automatic. Some leather, all loaded, 3 to choose from 1995 models. Great selection!

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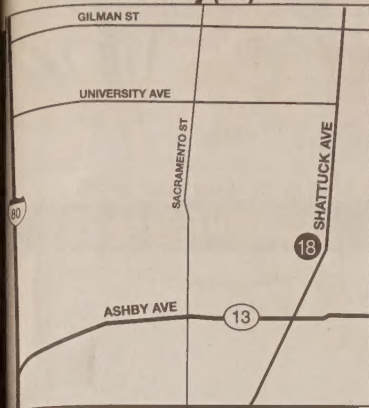
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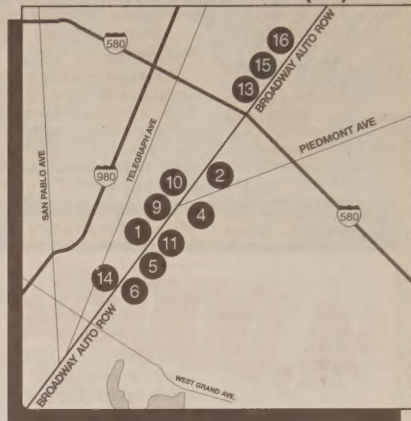
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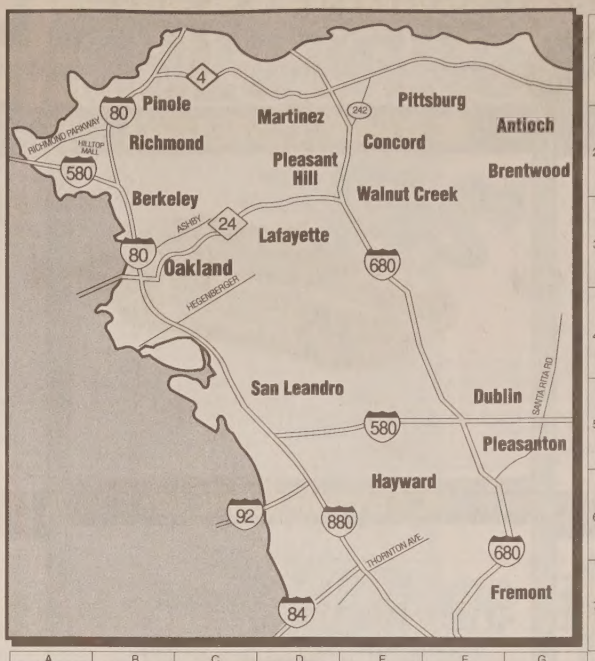
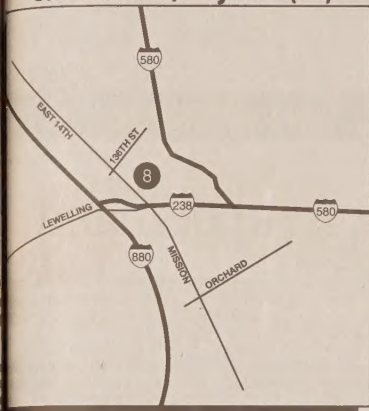
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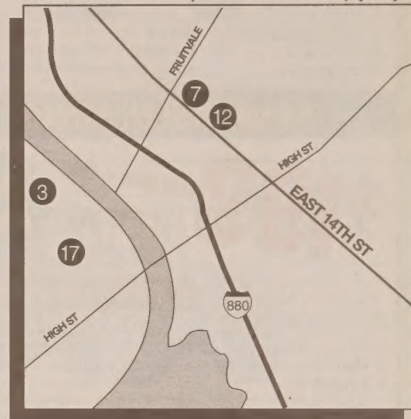
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San Leandro / Hayward (D-5)



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6. **Broadway Ford (C-4)**
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(510) 638-4000

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8. **Lloyd Wise Hyundai (D-5)**
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(510) 245-1985
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12. **Lloyd Wise Nissan (C-4)**
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www.downtownsaab.com

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www.downtowntoyota.com

17. **Ron Goode Toyota (C-4)**
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60 month closed-end lease. 36 mos. @ \$199.25 + tax. Total payments \$11,955 + tax. Cap. cost \$22,775. Residual \$12,999. 12k mi/yr. Lease drive off \$4,000 cap red. + 1st payment, lic. fee, tax & \$495 bank fee. VIN #458116

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- ✓ Full Size Spare
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- ✓ Security Gp.
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- ✓ 2 GB Pkg & more

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'99 SEBRING COUPE LXI

\$3,600 OFF MSRP



✓ Loaded!

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\$13,488 + fees



After Rebate & \$400 College grad. VIN #556754

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\$14,988 + fees



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- ✓ Moonroof
- ✓ V6
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- ✓ Quad
- ✓ Alloy Wheels
- ✓ Roof Rack
- ✓ Tinted Glass
- ✓ Cassette/CD
- ✓ Fog Lamp
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- ✓ Plus more!

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\$9,999 + fees



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'98 MILLENIA S

\$12,800 OFF MSRP



Only 1 at this price. VIN #415692

'98 B2500 TRUCK SE

\$8,999 + fees



- ✓ AC
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'97 BUICK CENTURY \$14,995 #424385	48 Hour Return Policy See Mgr.	'96 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY \$15,995 #271215	'97 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX \$16,995 #345175	'94 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE \$17,995 #308879	'97 HONDA ACCORD \$18,995 #007248	'96 FORD EXPLORER \$19,995
48 Hour Return Policy See Manager for details		'96 JEEP GR. CHEROKEE LTD V8 \$21,995 #335823	'99 CHEVY TAHOE LS LOADED \$30,995 #308072	'99 CADILLAC DEVILLE \$29,999 #704886	3.9% Financing	April 9, 10, 11

*Max amount financed \$15,000. 36 mo. max. term, restrictions apply. See Mgr for details. '93 or newer, less than 100k miles, O.A.C.